

**DESCENDANTS OF
THE FIRST JOHN
FOLSOM, THROUGH
DEA. JOHN, LIEUT.
PETER, AND...**

Nathaniel Smith Folsom



GIFT OF

HON. ROBERT C. WINTHROP
OF BROOKLINE

 HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY 

DESCENDANTS

OF THE

FIRST JOHN FOLSOM,

THROUGH

DEA. JOHN, LIEUT. PETER, AND EPHRAIM
FOLSOM.

By
Nathaniel Smith Folsom, and Jacob Chapman.

Reprinted from the NEW-ENGLAND HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL REGISTER
for April, 1876.

BOSTON :
FOR PRIVATE DISTRIBUTION.
1876.

~~16363.10~~

US 42101.1

1877, Dec. 14

Gift to
Hon. Robert C. Winthrop,
of Brooklyn.
(Feb. 2, 1828.)

DAVID CLAPP & SON, PRINTERS, 564 WASHINGTON STREET.

P R E F A C E .

THE following paper originated from a conversation between the Rev. Nathaniel S. Folsom, and the Rev. Jacob Chapman, and from the known intention of the Rev. Mr. Chapman to prepare a book embracing a complete genealogy of the Folsom Family. The latter was advised to furnish an article for the Historical and Genealogical Register, with a view to obtain the coöperation of all interested in the object. It was accordingly furnished, confined strictly to "the first four generations" and within the "six printed pages" to which such articles are in general limited. It was then submitted to the senior writer's revision, who could not take it in hand until January of the present year. On consultation with friends it was thought advisable to introduce historical and biographical sketches—the additional expense being cheerfully borne by them. And then as it became known that a multitude of the Folsoms of the present generation would not be helped at all by a paper within the specified limits, it was deemed expedient to include all the names given in Mr. Kelley's Genealogy published many years ago in the "Exeter News Letter" (of which very few copies are in existence), in as full and perfect a form as possible. And so the paper grew in the senior writer's hands until it has swelled to more than four times the "six pages," embracing a large amount of new names and dates within the scope of the generations assigned to himself by Mr. Kelley as well as beyond them.

It was within the intent of the paper to record some representative of each living family traceable to the first John Folsom, and in particular any persons of talent, enterprise, or useful service, of whom information could be gained in season for publication by the month of April. Perhaps as much success has been obtained in this direction as could reasonably be expected. Still, the main object has been to help to something more complete yet to come. It is only the first fruits that are now gathered. The extent of the harvest-field may be imagined from a single point of view. Wishing to ascertain the status and antecedents of the founders of Folsomdale, Wyoming Co., N. Y., Mr. A. A. Folsom corresponded with a gentleman of that place, and finally learned their names—all prominent men (and they were three in number), Supervisors, Justice of the Peace, large property-holders; also that they originated from Tunbridge, Vt.; that their father (beyond whom he could not ascertain their pedigree) was Asa, brother of Jacob Folsom—the last leaving a family of "eleven sons and daughters who met their descendants and other relatives at a reunion in Tunbridge, in the month of August or September, 1871, to the number of three or four hundred." If they could only have come prepared with written genealogies of their families, to be recorded and preserved!

The kindness of postmasters and postmistresses is gratefully acknowledged, especially in the instance of finding a married sister of Capt. Folsom, of California, who, through her daughter, furnished a very full family-record, going back far enough to be easily connected with names found in Mr. Lancaster's History of Gilmanton, in direct descent from the first John Folsom. Nor could important portions of the article have been written without the valuable aid of Mr. John Ward Dean, the Librarian of the Historic Genealogical Society, and Editor of its periodical, in putting just the needed books before the writer for personal research; also of the Librarian of the Congregational Library. A constant correspondence has also been maintained with Rev. Mr. Chapman, who has already a more extensive collection of names, dates, &c., of the Folsoms than any other person in the country.

In taking his final leave, the senior writer earnestly asks the descendants of John Folsom to communicate names, dates (going back the farthest they can), occupations, biogra-

phical sketches, &c., to the Rev. Jacob Chapman, Kingston, N. H. Let them do this before the oldest generation now living shall pass away. Especially let efforts be made like that of Mr. Paul Foster Folsom (mentioned in note, p. 16), and the work of putting the various groups in lineal connection with the first John Folsom will be more practicable; whereas in their present state many of the names now in the hands of Mr. Chapman are utterly untraceable. That correspondence, proving that Benjamin F. was an ancestor two generations back of men still living who are over seventy years of age; that he went from Exeter or near neighborhood to Deerfield and thence with his family into Maine, was most important. And it agreed with a fact known from Deerfield records that a Benjamin F. had lived for a time in Deerfield, but of whom there was no other trace, and no other fact known. But who was Benjamin's father? Nobody could tell. The whole Genealogy of Mr. Kelley was ransacked. Every Benjamin named in it was brought into inquisition, until at last one was fixed on, and a pedigree made out that received the approval of the late Mr. Drake, so far as any could have it in the absence of explicit records. But later research, in the course of making up this present Genealogy of the "Folsom Family," revealed a flaw in the non-agreement of the ages so as perfectly to fit the Benjamin sought after. The whole was given up, and the conviction reluctantly reached that in Mr. Kelley's Genealogy, the fullest known, there was no trace of such a person. Still later, an examination of the brief record of the Folsoms of Gilmanton, in Mr. Lancaster's History of Gilmanton, which was the occasion of bringing, by continued research and inquiry, almost all the new matter found in the present paper on pp. 15-18 (also on p. 13, No. 6), disclosed children of John (son of Dea, John), who married Sarah Dudley; and among their children was a son *Peter*, father of Peter, Josiah, Abraham and Benjamin. But of the Benjamin the History said nothing further. This supplied the long missing link, and met every condition. The Genealogist will appreciate the remark when I add, that this cost nearly a week of close, arduous, perplexing research and study. Mr. Chapman will have some of this sort of work to do. Even with help and encouragement his whole work will be arduous, enthusiastic though he is in it; without encouragement, it will be impossible. Let every family pledge itself to purchase his book when completed. We trust he will be able to produce a companion-volume to the "Gilman Genealogy," that model of its class in form and method and general execution. If in five or in seven years from the present time he shall have published such a work, he will not fail to win the gratitude of his kinsmen, and to find a welcome also from many beyond them.

N. S. F.

THE FOLSOM FAMILY.

ON the 26th of April, 1638, the ship "Diligent, of Ipswich," Eng., of 350 tons burden, John Martin, master, set sail from the mouth of the Thames for Massachusetts Bay, having on board nineteen families and six or eight single persons, in all one hundred and thirty-three. Twelve of these families, numbering eighty-four souls, were from old Hingham, the rest from the immediate vicinity; and they had all embarked for the purpose of joining a colony settled in Hingham, Mass., 1633-37 (consisting of ten families and five single persons, in all forty-nine), who had been their friends and neighbors in old Hingham. Among those now emigrating were John Foulsham of Hingham, then twenty-three or twenty-four years of age, and his young wife, to whom he had been married about a year and a half. They were attended by two servants. His wife's father and mother, Edward and Mary Clark Gilman, of Hingham, three younger brothers, Edward (not quite twenty-one years old), John and Moses; two younger sisters, Sarah, and Lydia (who married Daniel Cushing, 1645), and three servants of the family, were fellow-passengers. The rector of the parish, Rev. Robert Peck, with his family, consisting of wife, two children and two servants, also formed part of the company. The immediate occasion of their departure seems to have been trouble in ecclesiastical matters. Their rector, doubtless with the sympathy and aid of most of those constituting the emigrating party, had pulled down the rails of chancel and altar, and levelled the latter a foot below the church, as it remains to this day. Being prosecuted by Bishop Wren, he left the kingdom, together with his friends—who sold their estates at half their real value—promising to remain with them always.

In an account of the family, published forty or fifty years ago in the "Exeter News Letter," from which a large portion of names and dates in the present record has been taken, there is mentioned a tradition that "as several John Smiths were in the company, one of them who came from the town of Foulsham was, for the sake of being distinguished from the others, familiarly called 'John Foulsham,' and by this name, on his arrival in New-England, he chose to be known. So it became his and his posterity's name." Now there may be a real fact of a change or abridgment of name lying at the basis of the tradition. There is presumptive evidence, nay, fair proof of it, in an attestation, given by the compiler of the Exeter News Letter Genealogy, of his inspection of a deed signed by John Foulsham, 1672, and recorded in vol. xi. p. 287, in the Registry of Deeds for the Co. of Rockingham, in which some property is conveyed by John Foulsham to his daughter, commencing thus: "Whereas there is an Intent of marriage between George March, the son of Hugh March of Newbery and Mary Foulsham the daughter of John Foulsham, *alias* Smith, of Exeter."* Why the "alias" there, unless he had once borne the name "Smith," and now wished to make the bequest to his child forever indisputable? Assuming this to

* A friend and kinsman, Nathaniel Shute, Esq., of Exeter, has kindly inspected this deed for us, and we give from his pen a more exact transcript in the text than the News Letter contains, together with the closing portion, here in this note.

"Know ye all men by these presents, that I the said John Foulsham in consideration of

have been his name when he embarked, the explanation given by the "News Letter" cannot be wholly accurate; for there is only one more "Smith" on the list of passengers, and his name was "Henry." There is, however, printed in the town records for 1639, as will be seen further on, the name of a "John Smith" associated with that of "John Foulsham." Where did he come from? In all probability he was one of the sons of the "Henry Smith" already mentioned; and two John Smiths—though there were not "several"—presented motive enough for distinguishing them in name if possible. But with full evidence that "Foulsham" had been for centuries a family name, as well as that of a parish, in Norfolk county; that it was written on monuments, in town-records and in history, there does not seem any probability that "John Smith" on his voyage across the Atlantic would drop the name "Smith," and take that of "Foulsham" from the name of a parish in the neighborhood of Hingham. By the change he put himself among the "Foulshams." A better explanation of the adoption of the name "John Foulsham" by the husband of Mary Gilman—if we must accept the change—is that he took the surname because it was his mother's maiden name, and possibly was his own middle name, though middle names were very rare in England at that time. In dropping the last word, his father's surname, he did what many have done, and are doing down to this day. He was nevertheless a lineal descendant of the Foulshams,

the said marriage do Give, grant, Covenant Enfeoffe and fully clearly and absolutely doe give unto the said George and Mary one hundred acres of land lying and being in said Exeter and bounded," &c. &c.

"In witness whereof I the above-said John Foulsham have set my hand and seal the eighteenth of May Anno Domini 1672. JOHN FOULSHAM."

"In the presence of
John Gilman,
Anthony Somerby."

There is in existence in the Norfolk (formerly part of Essex County, and part of the Province of New-Hampshire) Records of Deeds, Book 2, leaf 291, a copy of still another deed, given by the first John Folsom—for the two following paragraphs from which we are indebted to the kindness of the family of the late Mr. Charles Folsom.

"John Ffulsham of Exiter [N. H.] in respect of y^e paternall love and affeecon and fatherly care and good will of my trustle and well beloved sone Peter Ffulsham of Exiter afores'd and for ye future good and benefit of him and his posterity," gives him

"40 or 50 acres of land in Hingham in ye county of Norfolk [Eng.] near Norrald Comon and formerly cald by ye name of Ffulsham at ye Boxbushes;—bounded W. wth Norrald Comon, E. with great Langhames and little Langhams, N. with Hardingham Comon, S. E. with land of John Buck formerly and Edward Flower formerly." "10 April, 1673."

In possession of the same family is a fac-simile of an autograph of John Folsom, penned the year he died, and showing another way of spelling the name, as follows: "John Foulsham, 1681."

The definite location of the "land in Hingham" is worthy of notice. It may assist in gaining a correct conception of it, to consider that "Hingham was once the head town of a denery, and contained 43 parishes." "Ffulsham" seems to have been one of these outlying parishes; and the deed proves that the first John Folsom had land there as well as in "Huckford-by-Hingham," as the latter place was sometimes called by way of distinction. The appellation "Ffulsham at the Box-bushes" suggests a site where the Box-shrub abounded, and was planted as an ornament of garden and lawn, perhaps an ancient home of his ancestors—the buildings long gone—one of the freeholds gained by purchase or gift in the parishes in which the manors of the noblemen were a moiety only. The De Marshalls and Morleys had "manors in Folesham" from 1202 to 1580. The De Poinings had "fees" there in 1324. (See for these various statements, "Blomefield's County of Norfolk," vol. 2.) It was also an "advowson" (i. e. with right attached of appointing to a church-living), a "demesne" (the nobleman's tenants being exempt from tolls and taxes), &c., and the names of the bordering parishes of Hadingham, Langham, and Norrald (Northwold, where it is stated that "the site of a manor" had become "a pasture-close"), can be all identified. Perhaps the land had been kept so long because of the dear associations connected with it. He remembered the fragrance and greenness of its shrubbery. And now, eight years before his death, he will not alienate the ancestral possession from his family, but bestows it on one of his sons. The father's tribute to the good qualities of the son supplies valuable testimony of character in the absence of any other record.

worthy to be the founder of the Folsom family in America, and fit to transmit the vigorous pulsations of his ancestral blood to future generations.*

The party having landed at Boston, Mass., Aug. 10, 1638, immediately proceeded to their place of destination, about fourteen miles S. E. from Boston. An Adam Foulsham, probably a son of the Adam who died in 1627, and a cousin, if not brother, of John Foulsham, came from Hingham, Eng., to Hingham, Mass., in 1639, but returned to England and died 1670. Their rector remained about three years, when hearing that the bishops were deposed, he returned to England in 1641† (the date given by Daniel Cushing), resumed his rectory, and died 1656. Edward Gilman had with others obtained a grant of land eight miles square in a place now called Rehoboth, near the Rhode Island line, in 1641. In 1647 his name is recorded in Ipswich. Soon afterward he went to Exeter, N. H., where his sons were already established in business. John Folsom and wife, with their children, followed her father and mother to Exeter, probably not earlier than 1650; the first authentic record of their residence in that town being in the year 1655.

During the twelve or fifteen years' residence of John Foulsham in Hingham, Mass., he was not without tokens of the good will of the people.

* As to the original derivation of the name FOULSHAM, Hon. George Folsom, in one of the MSS. left by him, says "It arose, upon the adoption of surnames in England, from the town of Foulsham, a village in the county of Norfolk, England [six or eight miles north of Hingham], in which county the family was seated for many centuries, possessing estates in fifteen different places." Thus, John of Foulsham became John Foulsham.

The orthography and pronunciation of the name have varied in the family itself, as well as among others writing and pronouncing it. The first Anglo-American bearing the name spelt it "Foulsham." His son, Dea. John, wrote it "Fullsom" in 1709, and it so signed in his last will, 1715. In one instance in the Hingham town records it is spelt "Fulsham," but always afterward "Foulsham." In the Exeter records it is uniformly written "Folsom" from the year 1659, with one exception in 1681, when the town clerk wrote "Foulshame." In the records of the First Parish, Haverhill, Mass., 1749-54, it is spelt "Foulsham," "Foulsum," "Folsham," and "Fulsom," on occasion of the baptism of children of "Josiah Foulsham." Originally it was doubtless spelt "Foulshame"—its etymological significance being the *Fowls home*, or breeding-place, or mart. The old syllabic division must have been Fowls-hame, the final syllable becoming shortened into "ham," with the first letter silent, pronounced like *um*, as may now often be noticed in words of that termination. A further shortening appears in 1504—how extensively practised is uncertain—in a Latin inscription on a monumental stone in the floor of the church of Repps, Norfolk co., which translated is, Pray for the soul of Mr. Thomas Folsham, Baccalaureate of the Chapel (Hist. of Norfolk Co., vol. xi. p. 182). This last mode of spelling appears on modern maps of England, designating the town. But everywhere it is now written *Folsom* by those bearing the name.

In regard to the pronunciation of this word, it is now generally pronounced by the family quite like *wholesome* (the writer has never known but one exception). And we suggest that this is a preservation of the old way of pronouncing the name; that in the first syllable "Fowls" the diphthong "ou" was sounded as in "souls, poultry," &c. Certain it is that this old spelling—*Fowls* (or *fowles*)—of our modern word "fowls," occurs in Chaucer—as in his "House of Fame," and in his "Legend of Nine Good Women":—

"As this foule when hit beheld."

"I hear the foules sing."

Our suggestion is, moreover, fully borne out by similar phenomena of pronunciation in modern times. We hear "bowling-alley" (once written *bowling*-alley, and the sphere or ball, *boule*) pronounced in two ways, with the first syllable like "ow" in *howl* and in the drinking-vessel *bowl*. "Johnson, Elphinstone and Perry declare for the former, i. e. as in *howl*;" Sheridan, Scott, Rennell and Smith pronounce it like *hole*. Garrick corrected Walker for pronouncing it like "howl."—(Early English Pronun., vol. i. p. 152.) Even the pronunciation of the word when written as Dea. John Folsom wrote it, "Fullsom," has authority in the old pronunciation of the word "Cowper," like that of *round* (a hurt) as now heard, with the *ow* as in "group," or possibly nearer the sound of *o-o*—the sound of the *ow* in "Cowper" as in *howl* being "given it only by those who do not know the family."

† In Mr. Blomefield's "County of Norfolk," vol. 2, p. 425, it is stated that he "came back to Hingham in the year 1645, after ten years voluntary banishment."

It is quoted from Daniel Cushing's Records in Sprague's Genealogy, Appendix, p. 50, that "there was given him by the Town, four acres of Land butting upon the Playne eastward and upon the Common westward;" and the author of the Genealogy mentions that "the house standing upon this lot [1828] was built by Foulsham before Daniel Cushing was Town-clerk [1669]—the frame is of sawed oak-timber. My grandfather," the author adds, "bought it in 1744 of Daniel Beal—my father left it in 1800; the Spragues own it at present." This house was taken down in 1875, and some of its sawed oak manufactured into memorial chairs. Another record is quoted of the 30th of January, 1645, that "the seven or nine men chosen to order the prudential affairs of the town shall be chosen out of *the body of the Town*, as well non-Freemen as Freemen;" and the seven chosen were "Thomas Josselyn, George Marsh, Thomas Gill, John Tower, John Smith, John Foulsham, William Sprague." And again, "it is ordered & agreed upon by the town that Capt. Joshua Hubbard and John Foulsham shall have liberty of the two rivers, Rocky Meadow & Bound Brook Rivers, so far as the town hath property, to build & maintain a saw-mill or mills."

It is related in the Exeter News Genealogy that in 1645 there arose some "troublesome business," as Gov. Winthrop calls it in reference to himself personally; a man named Emes, who had been lieutenant of Hingham, having been appointed captain by the government, but rejected by the people, who elected Allen in his stead. Winthrop, then lieutenant-governor, insisted that Emes should be obeyed as commanding officer; the people insisted upon having Allen for their captain, and, "speaking evil of dignities," asked, "What have magistrates to do with us?" protesting also that they would die at the sword's point if they might not have the choice of their own officers. The result was a requisition on some of the leaders to give security for appearance at court, and on their refusal a commitment to prison. In turn, the friends of the imprisoned arraigned Winthrop for assumption of power and illegal imprisonment. The affair terminated in the acquittal of the deputy governor; and a fine of £155½ was imposed on about ninety persons, £20 of which John Foulsham was sentenced to pay. By some means he was finally exempted; for his name does not appear among the censured and fined.

After his removal to Exeter, the name of "Goodman Folsom" appears in 1659 on the list of "selectmen." He obtained a grant of land, 1660; his sons also all obtained similar grants in years following; he was a juryman, 1662. In July, 1665, being one of a committee representing Dover, Portsmouth, Exeter and Hampton, to consult on certain political grievances, he presented "a petition to the King's Majesty," for consideration by the committee, praying that they "might be governed by the laws of England," and expressing "joy that the King had sent over Commissioners into these parts," and "sorrow that the Commissioners were evilly entertained by the Bay Government." Connected with this, and showing further action in the matter, it is recorded in volume i. of the Provincial Papers of New Hampshire, p. 280, without date, but about 1665, that "testimonies of selectmen are made that John Foulsham, Sen., and three others, Abraham Corbitt, Robert Burnham and Edward Hilton, are principal actors in trying to procure hands to be taken off [i. e. to sign off] from the Bay Government." In 1776, he and his brother-in-law, Moses Gilman, disagreed about their boundary-lines, and the latter, in a passion, pulled up a parcel of fence that stood between their lands. "John Sen'r" instantly entered his complaint; the case was "respited" a few days

at the request of Moses. Intercession on the part of mutual friends "persuading to peace meantime proved fruitless." John felt that an insult and a wrong had been committed, and he pressed the trial. The decision was slightly evasive of the question of real line of boundary. But so far as it went it was against Moses, who was required to bear the cost of complaint (16 shillings), and where, by pulling down the fence, he had made gaps and exposed his neighbor's crops to injury, he must put it up and keep it up, "until after next Indian harvest," when, of course, the matter in dispute might be opened again, and a more intelligent decision be given. Mr. Commissioner Dalton, however, "does advise to peace and love in the mean time, as their relation and duty requireth."

From facts like these, the descendants of the Anglo-American JOHN FOLSOM may learn what were some of the traits of character in their ancestor. He was enterprising, courageous, prominent in the communities in which he lived, a leader in public affairs, determined on simplicity in religious worship and equity in the state, a solid, independent, righteous and true man.

The earliest period in which the name appears in history, is the first half of the fourteenth century. There was a John Foulsham of Foulsham, prior of a Carmelite monastery in Norwich, and "præses provincialis" of all England. In all probability he belonged to a family of which the Folsoms are lineal descendants. He was D.D. of Cambridge, and, according to Pitt, is spoken of in John Bayle's Catalogue of Eminent Writers (p. 421), as follows: After an acquaintance with Aristotle's methods, and having got a smattering of the original scriptures [gustatis scripturarum corticibus], he became no mean proficient in controversial theology, knowing how, by means of syllogistic tricks, to turn white into black and men into donkeys. He died in the great plague at Norwich, 1348. Richard Foulsham, also of Foulsham, and probably the prior's brother, was much in the court of John XXII. at Rome (1316-34), with whom he corresponded, and some of his letters to whom were published.

The first traceable ancestor of John Foulsham is (1) ROGER Foulsham, of Necton, county of Norfolk, Eng., whose will is dated 1534. (2) WILLIAM, his son, married Agnes Smith, alias Foulsham, of Besthorpe, and was father of (3) ADAM, of Besthorpe, who married Emma —, and whose will is dated 1565; he owned lands in Besthorpe, Wymondham (Windham), Bunwell, Hingham and Hackford. (4) ADAM, his son, was baptized 1560; married Grace —; had a home in Hingham and lands in Besthorpe; he died 1630. (5) ADAM, of Hingham, son of the latter, married Agnes —, and died 1627. The facts in the preceding paragraph, and thus far in the present, are given on the authority of the MSS. of Hon. George Folsom, who visited England and explored every possible source of information. He next states that "Adam," the fourth in descent from "Roger," left a son named "John," i.e. the first Anglo-American John Foulsham. Those who shall accept the "*alias Smith*" can hardly consider him as the son of Adam the third, but of Adam's sister, who had married a Smith. Through her he was the grandson of the previous "Adam." From this first Anglo-American John Folsom, of Exeter, N. H., and his wife Mary Gilman Folsom, are descended, so far as we know, all the Folsoms in America—with the exception of one family, with which is connected a story curious enough to be given in a note below.*

* Mr. Abraham Folsom, of Boston, has related to the writer the following: That his younger brother, James Madison Folsom, who went to Savannah, Ga., 1829, and died before

1. JOHN¹ FOLSOM, bapt. 1615, in Hingham, Eng. (a town about 14 miles W.S.W. of Norwich, and 97 N.E. of London, in the neighborhood of a small lake about a mile in circumference, and having a fine old stone church with a tower and chime of bells); m. Oct. 4, 1636, Mary, oldest child of Edward and Mary Clark Gilman; d. at Exeter, N. H., Dec. 27, 1681. His widow survived him eight or ten years. They had:

2. i. JOHN,² b. 1638 or '39; m. Nov. 10, 1675, Abigail, dau. of Abraham Perkins, of Hampton; d. 1715.
3. ii. SAMUEL,² b. 1641.*
- iii. NATHANIEL,² b. 1644; m. 1674, Hannah Faxon, of Hingham; had a son Samuel, b. April 18, 1679. He gave a deed of land in Exeter, 1696.
- iv. ISRAEL,² b. 1616; m. and had a son Israel; received "a Grant of Land" in 1661; nothing more is known of him.
4. v. PETER,² b. 1649; has always borne the title of Lieut. Peter.
- vi. MARY,² b. 1651; m. 12 June, 1672, George Marsu, of Newbury.
5. vii. EPHRAIM,² b. 1654.

2. DEA. JOHN² FOLSOM (*John*¹) was a man of high standing and good property, active both in church and in political affairs. He is among the worthies of the first century of Exeter, of whom Judge Smith in his Centennial Address, July 4, 1838, says that "they filled acceptably the municipal and public offices conferred upon them." He was frequently sent to the General Assembly. In the first volume of Provincial Papers, already quoted with reference to his father, there is a deposition (pp. 554-7) from the son as constable, bearing date 1684, that he "had received a list of names in Exeter with fines annexed amounting to £50; that he was required by Gov. and Council to go and demand the sum; but the people refused to pay, saying the taxes should be raised by the General Assembly—which answer he gave to Gov. & Council: whereupon they took the scroll out of his hands and delivered it to Thos. Thurton, provost-marshal, and he was ordered by a warrant from the Secretary to aid the said Thurton." This summary treatment was honorable to him from such a government as that of Cranfield, and shows how "acceptably," at least to the people, if not to the party in power, he filled that special office of constable by forbearing to push the demand for oppressive and unconstitutional taxes and fines. The following

the rebellion, had two sons, Dr. Robert W., who fell in the Battle of the Wilderness, the colonel of his regiment, and James M., a young lawyer, and colonel on the staff of Gov. Brown. As Col. James was passing with a Georgia regiment through Sumter, S. C., a crowd of gentlemen and ladies had gathered at the depot to greet them—the ladies throwing bouquets to the officers and soldiers. Col. James caught one, and on his departure found in it a slip of paper, on which was written the name "Rosa Folsom." His curiosity being greatly excited, he wrote to know about the family, and received the following reply from the young lady's father: "We are descended from one who espoused the cause of liberty under Cromwell, but who died during the Protectorate. At the Restoration his estates were confiscated; and soon afterwards the sons embarked for America, and landed at Albemarle Sound [this must have been, if at all, at the settlement of the second colony at that place, 1667]. Two of the brothers married in America. Shortly after they simplified their name by spelling it 'Folsom.'" Col. James M. is the author of the "Heroes of Georgia," and is now clerk of the court of the county of Strafford, N. H.

* We have received a letter from Hon. Solomon Lincoln, of Hingham, containing an extract from Rev. Peter Hobart's diary, copied by his son, in which it is stated that the two oldest children of John Folsom were baptized—

Samuel, Oct. 3, 1641.

John, Oct. 11, 1641.

There is obscurity in this. No hint exists anywhere that they were twins. And the interval of *eight* days would prove that one of them could not have been baptized on a *Sunday*. Is it probable that John was born on the voyage, or amid the confusion of becoming established in their new home, so that his baptism was delayed until after the second child was born? Nothing definite fixes the birth of John. We have assumed that he was the oldest, without any explicit authority for it.

quotation from the same portion of the Provincial Papers will show the sort of "aid" he gave to the "provost-marshal," and that he could turn with wrath and contempt on the public foes, deacon though he was. Under date of Dec. 29, 1684, there is a deposition of this Thurton that "being sent to collect those fines, and one of 50 shillings on John Foulsham for neglecting the duty of his office as constable, Foulsham told him that if he came to levy execution at his house, he should meet him with a red-hot spit and scalding water; and bade him go, like a rogue as he was." The women of the Gilman family must also have some of the fame of this affair; for the provost-marshal adds, that "being at the house of Edward Gilman [son of the first Edward, and lost at sea about 1653] the wife of James Gilman [grandson of the first Edward, born 1659] told him she had provided a kettle of scalding water for him, if he should come." He thought it rather rough treatment, especially as no money had yet been demanded of them. In one instance in which Dea. John's wife had been slandered by his sister-in-law Hannah, wife of his brother Nathaniel, he was determined the offender should smart for it; and accordingly making complaint before Mr. Commissioner Dalton, he obtained sentence against her that she should "make acknowledgment at some public town-meeting."

Dea. Folsom had nine children, viz.:

- i. ABIGAIL,³ b. Dec. 23, 1676.
6. ii. JOHN,³ b. 1685.
- iii. SARAH,³ wife of — Stevens.
- iv. MARY,³ m. and left two children.
- v. LYDIA,³ wife of — Stockman.
- vi. MERCY,³ m. Lieut. James Dudley, cooper, son of Stephen (Rev. Samuel,² of Exeter, Gov. Thomas¹ Dudley); had seven children, one of whom, John, of Raymond, was a judge of the supreme court of New-Hampshire.
7. vii. ABRAHAM,³ m. Elizabeth —, and died about 1740.
8. viii. JEREMIAH,³ m. Elizabeth —; built, in 1719, the brick house just south of Newmarket village, which stood till 1874; d. 1757.
9. ix. JONATHAN,³ m. Anna, dau. of Nathaniel Ladd, Esq., whose wife Elizabeth was dau. of Hon. John Gilman. He died 1740, the father of twelve children. His wife administered on his estate.

3. SAMUEL² FOLSOM (*John*¹) m. Dec. 22, 1663, Mary, dau. of Henry Robey; d. about 1700; had:

- i. MARY,³ b. Sept. 27, 1664; m. Ezekiel Ladd.
- ii. EBENEZER,³ lived in Hampton in 1712; afterwards probably went to Stratham.
- iii. SAMUEL,³ was administrator on his father's estate in 1702; removed to Hampton, near the Portsmouth line; purchased a place in Greenland, 1710; d. prior to 1723, without children.
- iv. RUTH,³ m. March 4, 1692, Moses Norris.
- v. ISRAEL,³
- vi. DELIVERANCE,³ united with the church in Greenland, 1723.

4. Lieut. PETER² FOLSOM (*John*¹) m. May 6, 1678, Susanna Cousins, of Wells, Me.; d. 1717. Children:

- i. ELIZABETH,³ wife of Samuel Sanborn.
- ii. SUSANNA,³ who m. Caleb, son of Moses Gilman and grandson of first Edward; they had two children, David and Caleb.
- iii. MARY,³ m. Joseph Thing.
10. iv. BENJAMIN,³ m. Rachel, dau. of James Gilman (son of Moses, who was born in Hingham, Eng., and grandson of the first Edward); d. about 1750.

11. v. PETER,³ m. Catherine, dau. of Hon. John Gilman and granddaughter of the first Edward. He d. 1718. His widow married a second husband, Richard Calley, of Stratham.
12. vi. JOHN,³ m. (1) Hannah, dau. of James Gilman; (2) Mary Lyford.

5. EPHRAIM² FOLSOM (*John*¹) m. Phaltiel Hall; lived and died (killed by the Indians, 1709) in Newmarket, on a farm still owned and occupied by his descendants. Children:

- i. A daughter, who m. — Robinson, of Exeter.
- ii. A daughter, m. — York.
- iii. LYDIA,³ m. — Glidden.
- iv. ABIGAIL,³ wife of Joseph Judkins.
- v. SARAH,³ m. Thomas Young, Esq., of Newmarket; children: (1) Joseph; (2) Thomas, who had a son John.
- vi. EPHRAIM,³ Jr., m. — Taylor, whose children were—1. *Ephraim*, who m. Eunice Smart, and had Joseph; John (who had Joshua, Mary wife of Richardson, Elizabeth wife of Sanborn, Rhoda wife of Sanborn, Eleanor wife of Smith). 2. *Andrew*, of Ossipee, m. Anna dau. of William Folsom, and had Ella wife of Brackett, of Wolfborough; Andrew, who m. — Hodgdon. 3. *William*, m. Mary, daughter of John Folsom, son of Lieut. Peter. He was of Newmarket, and died there about the first of the year 1787. Children: John (died of small-pox during the Revolutionary war, one of whose children, Susan, m. Lamson, of Exeter); Edward, of Gilmanton (one of whose sisters m. Abraham, son of Abraham, br. of Josiah, son of John, son of Dea. John), m. — Burley, and had numerous descendants; Jonathan, who m. Prudence Weeks, Dec. 7, 1786, and left no children; Ephraim; Benjamin, blind (living in 1848); Hannah; Mary; Elizabeth; Rachel; also one of the daughters m. — Kimball, and had a son William.

- vii. WILLIAM,³ m. (1) Hannah Gilman, of Exeter, and (2) Elizabeth, widow of Benjamin Sanborn. All of his children but Dudley are supposed to be by his first wife. He was twenty years successively a selectman of Newmarket, and died in 1755. He had—1. Maj. *David*,⁴ of Epping; m. Sarah, dau. of Thomas Gilman, of Exeter; he is on State records as Second Major in the 19th Regiment, 1780; died 1791. His children were: (1) Thomas, who m. a dau. of Benjamin Watson, of Nottingham; (2) Winthrop, who m. a dau. of Thomas Noble, of Lee, had children Noah and Nancy, and removed to New York; (3) James, who m. — Blake, of Epping, and had Winthrop, of Dorchester, N. H.; (4) Gilman, who m. Ruth Page (of his children, Gilman, b. April, 1796, m. a dau. of Col. Marvin, was in Cleveland, Ohio, 1864, and had two sons. Another, Ezekiel, b. Dec. 1798, m. a daughter of Rev. Ebenezer Fitch, D.D., president of Middlebury College, was for some years a business man in Cleveland. George P., a son of the latter, b. Dec. 1826, graduated at Williams College, studied theology at Auburn Theological Seminary, m. Lilia Frazer, is settled over a Presbyterian Church in Baraboo, Wis.); (5) Ezekiel, m. — Norris, of Epping, and had Noah (m. a dau. of Josiah Smith); Moses and Gilman; (6) David; (7) Anna, wife of Moses Davis; (8) Hannah, wife of Noah Dow; (9) Sarah. The next children of William were: 2. *James*,⁴ 3. *Dudley*,⁴ who perished with cold in a gondola between Portsmouth and Newmarket. 4. *William*,⁴ who administered on his father's estate. He m. Mary Low, of Stratham; died Feb. 1809. Children: (1) Anna, m. Andrew Folsom, Ossipee. (2) Jacob, of Wolfborough, m. Elizabeth Smart, of Newmarket, June 4, 1787, and had Gilman, whose wife was Mary Rust; John, who m. Hannah Blake; Mary, wife of Joseph Edmunds; Lydia, wife of Nathaniel Rust; James, of Somersworth, whose wife was Sally Rust; George, who m. Chrissa Lee; Henry, of Somersworth, who m. Sally Leighton; Charles, of Somersworth, who m. Sally Richards. (3) Mary. (4) Lydia. (5) Mehitabel, wife of Robert Smart and mother of Charlotte (wife of Thomas Pendergast, of Exeter), Robert and Jacob. (6) Hannah, wife of Joseph Cooley, of

Exeter, who removed to the West. (7) Betsey, wife of John Brackett, of Wolfborough. (8) Josiah, who m. Abigail Ham, of Durham, and occupied the farm owned by his great-grandfather in the seventeenth century. Of the children of Josiah and Abigail are—1. William, a physician, who m. a dau. of Hon. Smith Lamprey, of Kensington. 2. Mary. 3. Abigail. 4. Josiah. (9) Sally, wife of Joseph Tucker, of Wolfborough. There were also three daughters to William,³ viz.: *Abigail*, *Mary* (wife of Dea. James Cram), and *Lydia* (wife of John Lyford).

6. JOHN³ FOLSOM (*John*,² *John*¹), b. 1685; m. Sarah, dau. of Stephen⁴(?) Dudley (b. 1688, m. July, 1708, which would make John at least twenty-four or five years older than his wife; the dates of two sons of Stephen being given at 1721, 1724, but those of the other six children not being given); d. 1755. They had (with other children):

13. i. PETER,⁴ b. 1718.

14. ii. ABRAHAM,⁴ b. 1720.

15. iii. JOSIAH,⁴ b. Sept. 25, 1725; not to be confounded with Josiah, seventh child of John² (Lt. *Peter*,² *John*¹).

7. ABRAHAM³ FOLSOM (*John*,² *John*¹) had:

i. DANIEL,⁴ married; lived in Exeter.

ii. JONATHAN,⁴ of Sheepscode, York co., Me.; d. 1745.

iii. ABRAHAM,⁴ joiner, of Exeter; m. a dau. of William of Newmarket, and sister of Edward of Gilmanton.

iv. MARY,⁴ m. James Rundlett; was a widow in 1745.

8. JEREMIAH³ FOLSOM (*John*,² *John*¹) had:

16. i. NATHAN,⁴ b. Newmarket, 1717; m. Elizabeth —; d. 1769.

17. ii. JEREMIAH,⁴ Jr., b. July 25, 1719; m. March 28, 1742, Mary Hersey; d. 1802.

iii. ELIZABETH,⁴ wife of Walter Bryant, Esq.

iv. SUSANNA,⁴ wife of John Mend, of Stratham; children: *Benjamin*, of Newmarket; *John*, of Deerfield; *Levi*, of Northwood, and *Jeremy*, of Newmarket.

v. ABIGAIL,⁴

vi. SARAH,⁴ wife of Jacob Low, of Stratham.

vii. ANN,⁴ wife of Joseph Young, of Stratham.

viii. JOHN,⁴ of Stratham, b. July 7, 1723; m. 1748, Sarah, dau. of Samuel Veasey. Children: 1. *Samuel*, who died an infant. 2. *David*, b. May 20, 1750; m. Dorothy, dau. of the Rev. Wm. Johnson, of Newbury; their children: (1) Hon. John, of Chester; (2) William; (3) Mary, wife of — Poor; (4) Martha, wife of Thomas Brackett, and afterwards of Shadrach Robinson; (5) Nancy, wife of John Adams. (6) Elizabeth, wife of Winthrop Hilton, of Newmarket. By a second wife, Martha Wiggin, b. 1729, he had: 3. *Sarah*, b. 1758, m. 1777 to John Poor; 4. *Martha*, b. 1760, wife of Thomas Brackett, and afterwards of Shadrach Robinson; 5. *Anne*, b. 1762, m. 1788, John Adams, father of Rev. John-Folsom Adams of the Methodist church; 6. *Elizabeth*, b. 1769, m. to Winthrop Hilton, of Newmarket. John,⁴ of Stratham, was a man of influence, often in office. His son David,⁵ father of Hon. John, ranked very high in general ability; was one of the early settlers of Tamworth: is said to have been the first to make cut-nails by machinery. He left in 1788, went to Harrisburg, Pa., died there, and his widow, returning to Exeter, m. — Blanchard, of Chester.

9. JONATHAN³ FOLSOM (*John*,² *John*¹) had:

i. JOHN,⁴ m. (1.) — Hilton, of Newmarket, and their children were: *John*; *Emma*,⁵ wife of Winthrop Odlin; m. (2) Abigail, dau. of Theophilus Smith (and sister of Theo. S., of Exeter, teacher), and their children were *Mary*; *Elizabeth*⁵ (the first and second wives of

- John Shaw, Esq. of Pittsfield); *Theophilus*,⁵ of Wheelock, Vt.; *James*,⁵ of Cornville, Me.; *Ann Bradstreet*,⁵ wife of Joshua Bangs, a preacher.
- ii. *MARY*,⁴ b. Feb. 17, 1722; m. Peter Folsom, son of Peter³ and Catherine Gilman Folsom.
 - iii. *JONATHAN*,⁴ b. 1724; of Newmarket, next of New Durham; lost his leg by the bursting of a swivel in the rejoicings over the recent capture of Louisburg; was town clerk of New Durham several years. The most of his children removed to Western New-York.
 18. iv. *NATHANIEL*,⁴ b. 1726.
 - v. *ANNA*,⁴ m. David Gilman (prob. son of Capt. John, son of Moses).
 19. vi. *SAMUEL*,⁴ b. Feb. 22, 1732 (same day with Gen. Washington).
 20. vii. *TRUEWORTHY*,⁴ ("Treworgye," the maiden name of Hon. John Gilman's wife, b. about 1734, and mother of his children), m. Mary West, of Boston.
 21. viii. *JOSIAH*,⁴ b. Nov. 5, 1735; moved to Dover; m. May 27, 1762, Elizabeth (b. April 23, 1742), dau. of Dr. Josiah Gilman, of Exeter, son of Judge Nicholas. Dr. Gilman, when past eighty, would mount his horse and canter off to answer calls from patients who often sent from far. In 1776 he was "appointed to examine and store whatever saltpetre was brought into town;" held the office of clerk of the proprietors of Gilmanston for more than thirty years. His daughter Elizabeth's children, who passed much of their childhood at his home, cherished his memory with great veneration and love.
 - ix. *SARAH*,⁴ wife of John Nelson, d. about 1800.
 - x. *LYDIA*,⁴ wife of Moses Longee.
 - xi. *ELIZABETH*,⁴ wife of William Bowden. Their daughter m. — Nealy, and was the grandmother of Col. Joseph Cilley, of Nottingham, and of Hon. Jonathan Cilley, of Thomaston, Me.
 - xii. *ABIGAIL*,⁴ wife of Ebenezer Sinclair, who d. 1754. Her brother, Gen. Nathaniel, was guardian to her son Richard. A daughter m. William Hackett, brother of Col. Hackett.
10. *BENJAMIN*³ *FOLSOM* (*Peter*,² *John*¹) had:
- i. *THOMAS*,⁴ b. Dec. 2, 1737; m. his cousin Elizabeth Gilman (b. Sept. 13, 1739, d. Aug. 5, 1819, dau. of Nehemiah in the line of Moses, son of the first Edward; a daughter of her brother Theophilus was grandmother of Gen. Lewis Cass); d. Dec. 9, 1794. Their children were: *Mary*,⁵ *Benjamin*,⁵ *Nehemiah*⁵ (b. June 16, 1769, m. Betsey Taylor, d. 1836); *Rachel*⁵ (b. Dec. 24, m. Nathaniel Neal of Tauntonborough); *Thomas*,⁵ b. June 12, 1772, resided in Portsmouth, m. (1) Nancy, widow of Josiah Adams, Esq., of Newmarket, and their only child was Rev. *Albert-Adams Folsom*,⁶ an able minister of the Universalist denomination and most excellent man, whose son is the present city treasurer of Springfield, Mass. The other children of Thomas are *Elizabeth*,⁵ *Deborah*⁵ (b. April 29, 1778, m. D. Thurston); *Lucretia*,⁵ and (9) *Lydia*,⁵ b. June 2, 1787, m. April, 1809, Jonathan Folsom, of Portsmouth.
 - ii. *RACHEL*,⁴ m. March 20, 1760, James Sinclair, of Brentwood.
11. *PETER*³ *FOLSOM* (*Peter*,² *John*¹) had:
- i. *SUSANNA*,⁴ b. Sept. 27, 1704; m. in Kingston, 1739, Henry Morrill, of Exeter.
 - ii. *ELIZABETH*,⁴ b. March 20, 1706; m. 1725, John Robinson.
 - iii. *JOHN*,⁴ b. March 14, 1709; m. Hannah Sanborn. He was a house carpenter; skilful with his tools, but not familiar with books. Tradition says he kept his accounts by notches made on a particular piece of timber with his broad axe.
 22. iv. *JAMES*,⁴ b. Oct. 16, 1711; m. June 18, 1735, Elizabeth, dau. of Capt. Jonathan Thing; d. 1748.
 23. v. *PETER*,⁴ b. July 27, 1714; m. Mary, dau. of Jonathan (son of Dea. John) and sister of Gen. Nathaniel; d. July 11, 1792. His wife was born Feb. 17, 1722; d. 1791.
 - vi. *CATHERINE*,⁴ b. Jan. 24, 1716; m. Samuel Lamson.

12. JOHN⁵ (*Peter*,² *John*¹), by his first wife had : *

- i. PETER,⁴ who lived near Exeter line in what was called Piscassick (Newmarket). In his will, Feb. 1, 1756, John³ (Lieut. *Peter*,² *John*¹) gave "the mill, &c. to Joshua," and "the lands on the line of Newmarket and Exeter to his oldest son Peter," who paid taxes on them for many years.
- 24. ii. JOSHUA,⁴ b. 1721 (1711 ?) ; a Quaker ; m. Abigail Mead ; d. at Epping, 1793.
- iii. ELIZABETH,⁴ m. — Thruston ; named in will of her father, 1756.
- iv. MARY,⁴ m. William, son of Ephraim Folsom.

By his second wife, Mary Lyford, he had :

- v. SARAH,⁴ who m. Abraham Tilton, of Epping.
- vi. SUSANNA,⁴ wife of Nathaniel Bean, of Warner. Exeter records say, b. May 10, 1718.
- vii. JOSIAH,⁴ b. July 27, 1725 (?) ; d. July 27, 1820.

13. PETER⁴ FOLSOM (*John*,³ *John*,² *John*¹) m. Hannah Morison ; removed to Gilmanton, where he died, Aug. 5, 1815, aged 97. He had :

- i. Lieut. PETER,⁵ who m. Betsey Calef ; moved to Gilmanton, and had *Ruth*,⁶ *James*,⁶ *Peter Lawrence*.⁶ Peter L.⁶ was b. March 27, 1772 ; grad. D. C. 1796 ; taught the Academy in Fishkill, N. Y., one year ; was the first Principal of Gilmanton Academy, commencing 1797, and continuing until 1804 ; m. widow Mary Lawrence, of Fishkill, Nov. 1797 ; was merchant, magistrate, trustee of the Academy 1812-1836 ; d. Oct. 1, 1842, aged 70 ; his wife, Aug. 28, 1839. Lieut. Peter-F. had also *Benjamin*,⁶ *Jonathan*,⁶ *John*,⁶ *Hannah*.⁶ (wife of William Peaslee), *Jeremiah*,⁶ *Betsey-Smith*.⁶ ; and by a second wife, Elizabeth Bean, he had *James*⁶ and *Lawrence*.⁶
- ii. JOSIAH.⁵ iii. MARTHA.⁵
- iv. ABRAHAM,⁵ who lived in Epping ; had two sons, Abraham and John, who lived in Gilmanton. v. JOHN.⁵
- vi. BENJAMIN,⁵ who went to Deerfield and lived there for a time ; next with four sons, *John-Dearborn*,⁶ b. Dec. 28, 1762, (2) *Nathaniel*,⁶ (3) *Peter-Sauborn*,⁶ b. about 1766. (4) *Tristram*,⁶ emigrated into Kennebec Co., Me., when John D. was 12 years of age (these "Dearborns" and "Saubornes" being historic names in Exeter and neighborhood). John-Dearborn was twice married ; used to carry the mail on horseback from East Machias to Cooper (some 20 miles) when quite an old man ; lived until past 90 ; left sons, one of whom, Benjamin,⁷ aged about 84, lives in Rome, Me. ; two others, Elisha and Cyrus-G., with their married families, in Oconto, Wisconsin. Peter-Sauborn⁶ m. Betsey Philbrick, of Exeter, and had (youngest) *Benjamin*,⁷ of Topsfield, Me., aged 71, and (oldest) *Titus-Philbrick*,⁷ of East Machias, who married twice, d. 1832, leaving an only child, PAUL-FOSTER,⁸ b. Feb. 29, 1820, now among the well-known merchants of Boston, prominent in her religious activities, an example of the success, which through great obstacles and discouragements in youth, may be reached by industry, capability and integrity. One factor of that success, by no means a solitary instance of the kind, and yet deserving of special mention, was that for a short time he had a teacher in his native place who knew how to speak an

* In the closing portion of Mr. Kelley's Genealogy of Lieut. Peter,³ and in the section "vi. John"—in the two paragraphs commencing with "1" and "7"—there is a discrepancy between him and Mr. Lancaster, author of the History of Gilmanton, in giving the pedigree of *Peter L.*, of Dart. Coll. 1796, and in tracing the genealogy of *Josiah*, ancestor of Dea. Josiah of Exeter, father of Charles Lane Folsom. Mr. Kelley makes them descendants of the first John in the line of Lieut. Peter ; Mr. Lancaster puts them in the line of Dea. John. Now both in the Exeter Records and in the family tradition, this "Josiah" is declared to be "the son of John and Sarah [Dudley] Folsom." And as Peter L. was living when Mr. Lancaster's History was published, the genealogy given of Peter L. in that book is doubtless correct. Mr. K. has not a word to say of Dea. John's son John, who m. Sarah Dudley.

encouraging word, and to stimulate to noble endeavor—and that teacher no other than Rev. Dr. Harris, now Professor in the Yale Divinity School. Paul Foster m. (1) *Maria G.*, dau. of Jesse Brown, who died March 5, 1852; (2) *Helen-S.-F.*, b. June 15, 1830, dau. of George-W. Livermore, Esq., of Cambridge. Their children are: *Martha-Maria*, b. Feb. 7, 1852; *Sarah-Helen*, b. Oct. 15, 1854; *Jennie-Sophia*, b. April 20, 1856; *Mary-Olivia*, b. Nov. 18, 1861; *George-Frank*, b. July 18, 1864; *Paul-Foster*, b. Sept. 23, 1865; *Eva*, b. Jan. 30, 1868; *Grosvenor*, b. Aug. 8, 1872.*

14. ABRAHAM⁶ FOLSOM (*John*,³ *John*,² *John*¹) lived in Epping; had two sons:

- i. ABRAHAM,⁵ b. April 29, 1744; d. July 6, 1811; m. in 1765, Hannah Folsom (b. March 29, 1744, dau. of William (*Ephraim*,³ *Ephraim*,² *John*¹), of Newmarket).
- ii. JOHN,⁵ d. Nov. 5, 1820. (Both Abraham and John lived in Gilmanton.)

From Abraham and Hannah sprung four children, as follows:

- JONATHAN,⁶ b. Sept. 17, 1766; d. —.
 WILLIAM,⁶ b. July 12, 1771; d. Nov. 20, 1801.
 HANNAH,⁶ b. March 17, 1775; d. —.
 ABRAHAM,⁶ b. Oct. 8, 1777; d. Feb. 28, 1824.

This fourth and youngest child Abraham⁶ m. Mary Libbey, April 12, 1806 (b. Sept. 28, 1789, d. May 12, 1865); children:

SALLY-T.,⁷ b. Oct. 9, 1807; m. Charles-G. Forest, and has a dau. Josie.

GEORGE-C.,⁷ b. July 12, 1810; d. Jan. 24, 1840, leaving two children—one a son, *Gustavus-Decatur*, who resides in Cleveland, Ohio, and is the only one living that bears the name Folsom in a direct line from Abraham.⁶

DECATUR-A.,⁷ b. Feb. 5, 1814; d. May 18, 1834.

JOSEPH-L.,⁷ b. May 19, 1816; d. at San Jose, Cal., July 19, 1855.

CHARLES-P.,⁷ b. Jan. 30, 1819; d. Dec. 16, 1819.

FRANK-C.,⁷ b. Nov. 30, 1821; d. Feb. 9, 1846.

The birth-place of JOSEPH L.⁷ was Meredith, at the outlet of Lake Winnepiseogee.† The first thing resolved on, when the father had been taken away by an early death—the oldest child not seventeen, JOSEPH not eight, and the youngest not three—was to provide means for the education of the children; and to accomplish this, the estate was sold, and the family moved to Northfield. Through the kind offices of Hon. Frank Pierce, member of Congress, a cadetship was subsequently secured for JOSEPH at the Military Academy, West Point. He entered, June, 1836; graduated with honor, June, 1840; commissioned Brevet Second Lieut. 8th Infantry; Second Lieut. 5th Infantry, Nov. 3, 1840; served in Florida under command of General Worth against the Seminoles. At the end of the war, having been appointed Second Lieutenant, he served another year at his own request; then conducted a body of Indians to their new home in the West. Rejoining his regiment—the 5th Infantry, commanded by Brevet Brig. Gen. Brooks

* Of Benjamin,⁵ son of Peter,⁴ no record is known to exist which gives any trace of him after going to Deerfield. But in the group of families above mentioned, there is preserved an unvarying tradition of a grandfather or great-grandfather Benjamin, who having married in Exeter, went to Deerfield, and thence into Maine, under circumstances and with subsequent occurrences as above stated. A correspondence between Mr. Paul Foster F. and his kinsfolk, east and west, which was put into the present writer's hands, fully attests these facts—and the remarkable coincidences of periods of time, with the confirmation from the early historic Exeter and Newmarket and Hampton names of the "Dearbornes" and "Sanbornes" and "Phillricks," seem clearly to show the line of descent running direct from the first John through John,² John³ and Peter⁴ to the individuals of this group, so long seeking in vain for their exact genealogical place. The history of three thousand years and more is repeated. The missing "cup" is "found in Benjamin's sack," and "Joseph is made known to his brethren."

† For the substance of the facts here stated, see a Sketch of Capt. Joseph L. Folsom in the "History of San Francisco."

on the upper Mississippi—he served in various places in the North-West until 1844, when he was ordered to the Academy at West Point as Instructor in Infantry Tactics. Having continued there two years, and war being ready to break out and at last actually begun with Mexico, he asked even to the third time for permission to join his regiment in active service, but was refused.

In the autumn of 1846, Col. Stevenson being about to leave for California in command of the first regiment of New-York volunteers, and learning the character of Lieut. FOLSOM, applied to have him sent as staff-officer in the Quartermaster's department. Satisfactory arrangements having been made, particularly in regard to his promotion first to the grade of 1st Lieutenant, and soon after to that of Captain, and all the needful commissariat having been provided by him, he sailed with the expedition, and after a five or six months voyage arrived at Yerba Buena, in the beginning of the spring of 1847. Agreeably to orders from Gen. Kearney, he set about the work of inspecting the Bay of San Francisco for the purpose of selecting a site for the army stores; and Yerba Buena seemed to him to be the fittest place. Accordingly that became the military depot, and that his station both during the war and for a year after its close, receiving all funds, and making all disbursements both for the military and civil government of California.

Capt. FOLSOM had the sagacity to perceive what San Francisco—the name “Yerba Buena” having now been dropped for this by his own happy thought and instant action—was to become. He invested in it the little which he had—about fifteen hundred dollars; purchased, during leave of absence on a visit to the East, all the interest of the heirs in the Leidesdorf estate, returned after an absence of seven months, and was on duty again, a year and a half longer. The discovery of gold aided in the rapid development and growth of the new city. It opened like one of the magnificent flowers on that Pacific coast, not soon to wither and die, but to bloom in perpetually renewing and multiplying beauty. No man indeed makes a great city. Capt. FOLSOM did not make San Francisco. But it was a great thing to have a man of his intelligence and culture and generous public spirit one of its leading inspirers and moulders and builders. Nor will its future glory and greatness be separable from his name. But not the fortune of eleven millions to which his estate has already reached, and beyond which it is destined to swell; not the magnificent street bearing his name, on which stand some of his palatial edifices, and through which the breezes are wafted in eternal freshness from the Pacific in one direction and the Sierras in the other, will be his chief distinction. It is far greater to have one of the greatest and bravest commanders of modern times, Major Gen. William T. Sherman, place that name with honor in his “Memoirs,” and record it on the imperishable tablets of the heart, entitling it “MY CLASSMATE AND INTIMATE FRIEND.”

In general address, Capt. FOLSOM is said to have exhibited a slight formality, through the influence of his military education. But he was quiet and gentlemanly in manners, unreserved and companionable with intimate friends. Amid the civil and military duties that never in his hands bore even the faintest suspicion of neglect, he found time for literary pursuits that gave him no inferior place among educated minds. But he has left behind him, for his friends and kinsfolk, what is better than all this—a stainless character, an irreproachable integrity, a wakeful sense of honor, a conscience void of offence in respect to the pursuit of any personal gain at the expense

of ruin to others, a reputation which under the drill and discipline of actual life, amid its marches and conflicts, meets the true soldierly ideal; overcomes in the warfare with evil, and, having done all, stands. Captain FOLSOM's earthly labors were closed in life's prime, before he had reached the age of forty. His eyes saw not, his ears heard not, the opening of that conflict more momentous and terrible than any with Indian or Mexican, or whatever foreign foe. Who can doubt that, had he lived, he would have counted his millions but loss, nor lingered a day to present himself, as in youth, for the service and security of his country, for the perpetuity and enjoyment throughout the Republic of the blessings of the Union?

15. JOSIAH⁴ FOLSOM (*John,³ John,² John¹*), b. Sept. 25, 1725; d. 1820, aged 95; m. widow Martha Gould, dau. of Jeremiah Eastman, May 17, 1754, and had:

- i. JEMIMA,⁵ b. March 17, 1755; m. Peter Folsom.
- ii. MARTHA,⁵ b. Dec. 7, 1756; m. John Nelson, of Gilmanton; had John Nelson, Esq., of Haverhill, N. H., who grad. at Dartmouth, 1803, and died 1838, aged 60.
- iii. LYDIA,⁵ m. Jonathan Folsom, of Gifford, son of Peter.
- iv. MARY,⁵ b. 1763; m. 1781, James Folsom, and had ten children.
- v. JOSIAH,⁵ b. June 1, 1765; was deacon of the 1st church in Exeter; m. Sarah Lane, of Stratham. Their children were: (1) *Charles Lane*,⁶ b. 1799; of Dart. Coll. 1820; teacher in the Academy, 1820-22; a superior scholar, in whose early death, 1829, great hopes were blasted; (2) *Josiah-H.*,⁶ (3) *Mary*,⁶ who m. W. Keyes; (4) *Martha*,⁶ wife of Dr. Nichols; (5) *Sarah*,⁶ wife of Dea. John-T. Gordon; (6) *Ann*,⁶ wife of W. Palmer, of Boston; (7) *Lucy*.⁶
- vi. DUDLEY,⁵ b. Dec. 15, 1767; a physician, of Gorham, Me; m. Lucretia Swansey, of Gorham.
- vii. JOHN,⁵ b. 1770.
- viii. DEBORAH,⁵ b. May 12, 1772; m. James Lane, Esq., of Stratham.

16. NATHAN⁴ FOLSOM (*Jeremiah,³ John,² John¹*) had:

- i. ELIZABETH,⁵ m. (1) — Hilton; (2) David Gilman.
- ii. ASA,⁵ b. Sept. 24, 1757, called Capt. Asa; inherited the homestead in Newmarket; m. (1) Silly Boardman, and had *Nathan Boardman*,⁶ *Betsey*, *Polly*, *Sally*, *Nancy* and *Hannah*; m. (2) Betsey Guild; (3) Mary Gove, and d. in Deerfield, July, 1843.
- iii. ABIGAIL,⁵ b. Aug. 6, 1760; m. (1) Israel Gilman, of Tamworth; (2) Capt. Shepherd, of Holderness.

17. Col. JEREMIAH⁴ FOLSOM (*Jeremiah,³ John,² John¹*) had:

- i. JEREMIAH,⁵ b. 1743; of Rochester; m. Nancy —; d. at New Durham, leaving no child.
- ii. Col. JOHN,⁵ b. 1745; of Newmarket; m. 1767, Elizabeth, dau. of Col. Joseph Smith; d. 1820, leaving children: (1) *John*,⁶ who had Mary, Eliza and John-Odlin; (2) *Joseph-S.*,⁶ childless; (3) *Winthrop*,⁶ who m. Nancy Tash, had Eliza and John-S.; (4) *Jeremiah*,⁶ who m. Betsey Hersey, had Eliza and Nicholas; (5) *Betsey*,⁶ w. of Elder Israel Chesley.
- iii. PETER,⁵ b. 1747; of Lee; afterwards moved into Maine; m. Sally Dani, at Harpswell; had ten children, one of whom, Elizabeth, was mother of James and Ernestus Brooks, of New-York; d. at Harpswell.
- iv. SIMEON,⁵ b. April 7, 1749; m. Sarah Rust; d. at Exeter, 1810, leaving two sons: (1) *Jacob*,⁶ who d. early; (2) Hon. SIMEON,⁶ b. in Newmarket, June 19, 1776, came to Exeter at the age of 18, let himself to perform in a year's time a stipulated amount of nail-making for a stipulated sum of money and board; then having done the work in half the time, spent the other six months in getting what education he could at the Academy. Thence he set up nail-making for himself; m. Mary, dau. of Capt. James Leavitt, of Exeter, 1800; opened a store for general

trade; took an active part in politics; was elected Senator to the State legislature, 1813; was made Master of the Masonic Lodge; was chosen delegate to a convention at Portsmouth for sustaining Madison's measures in the war-crisis: died suddenly while on business in Wolfboro', Aug. 23, 1816, and in the midst of a career becoming more and more distinguished.* He was the father of one daughter and seven sons—(1) *Sarah-Rust*, who m. Thomas Hardy, grad. Dart. Coll. 1807; first a teacher in Boston, afterwards of Dublin, N. H., and a representative of that town in the State legislature, and has four children: *Charles-Carroll*, Capt. *Washington-Webster*, *Laura-Cordelia* (m. Wm. Vinton), *Mary-L.* (m. John Pinkham); (2) *Isaac-Lord*, b. 1801, m. Lydia Titcomb, died suddenly like his father, in the fullness of apparent health and fine personal development, leaving a son, *Charles-Edvard*, (m. and has a family); (3) *Jacob*, of Bridgewater, b. 1803, m. Eliza Newell, has two children, *George-William*, *Mary-E*; (4) *ABRAHAM*, b. 1805, commenced life (the present writer well remembers) an enthusiastic young artist; then tried the union of the practical with the ideal, and sought to adorn the homes of men by spreading his painted canvass on the floors of their halls; m. Abigail Smith Pierce, of Dover, Sept. 5, 1832; has three daughters, *Lydia-Ellen*, *Mary-Leavitt*, *Grace-Osborne*, and two sons, *Simeon-Pierce* (d.), and *Abraham-Wilbur* associated in the firm still bearing the name of the father and "sons;" has won his place among the honored manufacturers and merchants of Boston, through events most adverse; stands with tradesmen and workers who have made their names more noble as those of men deeply interested in the problems of modern thought, and earnestly devoted to the humanities of the age; (5) Maj. *George-P.*, who m. Sarah Cross, and has four children: *Simeon-B.*, *George-L.*, *Nathanie-C.*, *Abraham*; (6) *James-Madison*, who went to Savannah, Ga., m. Mary-Caroline Haupter, died and left two sons, Col. *Robert* (d.), Col. *James-M.*, and one daughter, *Maria-D.*; (7) *Simeon*, died 1824; (8) *Josiah-Bartlett*, who m. Olive B. Pierce, and has six children: *Mary-Olive*, *James-L.*, *Alice-O.*, *Andrew-Pierce*, *Rebecca-White*, *Anna*.

- v. JOSEPH,⁵ b. 1751; m. dau. of Rev. Jonathan Cushing, of Dover, and died at Rochester, leaving children Peter and Nancy.
- vi. LEVI,⁵ b. July 12, 1753; m. 1776, Joanna, dau. of Dr. John Weeks, of Hampton. He removed to Tamworth, N. H., and had nine children. His dau. Elizabeth-S. was the wife of Samuel Chapman, of Tamworth, and mother of Rev. Jacob Chapman, one of the authors of the Genealogy of the Folsom Family.†
- vii. ENOCH,⁵ b. 1755; m. — Foss; had no child.
- viii. JACOB,⁵ b. 1758; d. about 1777, in the army, unmarried.
- ix. MARY,⁵ b. 1761; m. Peter Hersey; had five children, and d. Aug. 31, 1839.
- x. SAMUEL,⁵ b. 1765; d. unm., about 1787.

18. Gen. NATHANIEL⁴ FOLSOM (*Jonathan*,⁵ *John*,² *John*¹) received a military commission quite early in life. In the expedition against Crown Point, 1755, then in possession of the French, one of the ten companies,

* Mr. F.'s Sunday suit was a snuff-colored dress-coat, with covered cloth buttons, light fawn-colored small clothes and white-top boots, light vest, ruffled shirt and standing collar, white cravat, square gold watch key with black ribbon, hair worn with a queue and combed back from the forehead. Add to this a stature full six feet and well proportioned, light blue eyes, dark hair, pale complexion, small white teeth, and manly address.

† Mr. Chapman through many difficulties fitted for college at the Exeter Academy; grad. at Dartmouth 1835, and at Andover Theological Seminary 1838; was Principal of the Academy at Lyndon, Vt., one year, and at Bridgeton, Me., two years; m. (1) Mary C., dau. of Hon. Nathaniel Howe, of Bridgeton; was Principal of Meyerstown Academy, Lebanon Co., Penn., remaining in this vicinity nearly ten years, during four of which he was Professor in Franklin College, Lancaster, and during two, Principal of Harrisburg Academy—preaching often, and to some ten different denominations; in 1852, became pastor of the church in Marshall, Clarke Co., Ill., serving there twelve years, including one in which he was Professor of Languages in Terre Haute Female College; returned to New-England, where he was pastor of the Congregational Church in Deerfield, N. H., six years; m. (2) Mary E., dau. of Charles Lane, Esq., of Stratham; is now pastor of the Congregational Church in Kingston, N. H.

which New-Hampshire was required to raise, consisted of men from Exeter and neighboring towns, and was put in command of Capt. Nathaniel Folsom of Exeter, who proceeded through the woods to Albany, and thence to Fort Edward, where the New-Hampshire Rangers were posted. On the 8th of September, the enemy attacked the Americans in camp at Fort George, but were repulsed, and their commander, Baron Dieskau, was mortally wounded and taken prisoner. In the course of the day Capt. Folsom with his company of 80 men was despatched in the direction of Lake George, who having met the retreating forces of the French, Canadians, and Indians about 4 o'clock in the afternoon, posted his men behind the trees, and kept up a brisk firing of musketry until night, with great loss to the enemy, while of the Americans only six fell, and their commander brought off safely all his wounded, with several prisoners and a large quantity of baggage. The engagements of the day, thus closed by Capt. Folsom, "served more than anything else," it is said, "to revive the spirit of the colonies." He became Major in 1767, and soon Colonel; was for several years a member of the N. H. House of Representatives and a prominent member of the liberal party. He was chosen, together with Major Gen. John Sullivan, to represent New-Hampshire in the first General Congress, which met at Philadelphia, Sept. 5, 1774; was appointed delegate from New-Hampshire to meet other New-England delegates at Providence, R. I., in respect to sending supplies to the army; served as Brigadier General during the siege of Boston, until relieved by Sullivan. In 1775 he was commissioned Major General; in 1776 was appointed one of the four Justices of the Court of Common Pleas for Rockingham County; in 1777 and 1779 was again chosen member of Congress. In the first year of his return to Washington, he writes to his friend Hon. Meshach Weare, President of the Council of New-Hampshire, that "the 8th Article of the Confederation gave him great uneasiness," as the South obtained by it an exemption from taxation for its negroes, who in reality constituted one third of its wealth, and thus caused the free States to bear a larger share of the burden of the charges of the war than was equitable. In 1778 he was chosen Councillor, and was temporary President of the Convention that framed the Constitution of New-Hampshire in 1783.*

* In the "Gilman Genealogy" (pp. 87-92) it is stated that on the 19th of October, 1761, a co-partnership was formed between Nathaniel Folsom, Joseph Gilman (who had been in business in Boston up to 1760), and Josiah Gilman, then living in Exeter, under the name of "Folsom, Gilman and Gilman," and was limited to seven years; that it had for its objects (1) to keep a general store in Exeter for English and W. I. goods and hard-ware, such as is common in country towns, only on a larger scale; (2) to build ships and carry on foreign commerce; these ventures at sea afterwards extending to St. Martin's, Antigua, Anguilla, St. Thomas, St. Kitts, Barbadoes, Bristol and London, and reaching to thousands of pounds sterling. The two Gilmans, it is certain, were sons of Rev. Nicholas, but no clue is given in respect to identifying the "Nathaniel Folsom." The same firm is mentioned in "Exeter in 1776," with the Christian name of "Joseph Gilman" only, and the surname of "Folsom" alone. But certainly this Nathaniel could be no other than Capt. Nathaniel, the hero of Lake George, who, just before the expiration of the firm, was appointed Major, and seven years afterwards Major-General. For (1) He was at that time thirty-five years of age ("Exeter in 1776" is incorrect in saying that he was "nineteen" when he commanded at Lake George—he was *twenty-nine*), and properly the senior member of the firm; while Joseph Gilman was twenty-three and Josiah just twenty-one. (2) They were relatives—being all three great-grandsons of Hon. John Gilman; Capt. Folsom, so, by his mother, Anna Ladd F., granddan. of Hon. John. (3) All three had afterwards almost in common the same high civil trusts. (4) There was no other Nathaniel then in existence at Exeter, or anywhere near, who could have stood in that relation to the firm. The son Nathaniel was a minor at the time, and afterwards entered into business in Portsmouth. On the Portsmouth list of signers to the famous Declaration, issued by the Committee of Safety, early in the Spring of 1776, and circulated so successfully as to gain 8199 signatures among the New Hampshire towns,—“We will to the utmost of our power at the risk of

Gen. Folsom m. first, (Mary?) Smith, by whom he had six children; (2) Mrs. Fisher, of Newburyport (formerly Mary Sprague of Boston), by whom he had a daughter:

- i. NATHANIEL,⁵ merchant, of Portsmouth, who m. (1) Mary Studley, Nov. 26, 1771; (2) Olive Husk Rindge, Aug. 21, 1789. The children by his 1st wife were Mary,⁶ wife of Thomas-W. Rindge; Elizabeth,⁶ b. Jan. 4, 1774, m. (1) to Joseph Noble; (2) to Joseph Lowe—of whose children, Elizabeth-Studley Noble m. Major Cobbs, U. S. Army, and is mother of Capt. Cobbs, ship-master, of Boston; Olivia-Folsom Noble, m. Calvin Willard, of Worcester, (since d.); and Mary-Folsom Noble, m. Feb. 22, 1826, Capt. John-Sherburne Sleeper, and has a family of married children. Capt. Sleeper, after retirement from sea-life, edited the Exeter News Letter; next, for about a year, one of the Lowell papers; then became chief editor and soon one of the proprietors of the Boston Journal, conducting that paper ably from 1833 to 1853, making it lively, vigorous, instructive, effective in promoting the political and moral welfare of city and state, pure and high-toned, read by its many readers with pleasure as savoring of the freshness of the sea; Dorothy,⁶ third daughter of Nathaniel,⁵ b. March 21, 1775; m. Col. Nathaniel Gilman of Exeter, one of whose 11 children, Mary-Olivia, m. Commodore John-Collins Long, U. S. Navy. Of the second marriage was born Capt. Nathaniel,⁶ ship-master, of Portsmouth, m. to Hannah Sheafe, dau. of William Sheafe; Sarah-Ann,⁶ wife of Rev. George-E. Adams, D.D., for some years a teacher of the Academy in Portsmouth, afterward a greatly beloved and respected pastor of the Cong. church in Brunswick, Me.; Arthur,⁶ b. 1795, who held office many years as Consul and Commercial Agent in Jeremie, Hayti (where he married and had children), was then removed in 1868 for sympathy with the revolutionary leaders, but appointed Consul General on Saget's obtaining the presidency, in which office he d. Nov. 21, 1870, in Orange County, N. Y., soon after his return from a visit to Europe.
- ii. MARY,⁵ b. 1751; m. (1), 1774, Caleb-G. Adams; (2) was the 2d wife of Gov. John-Taylor Gilman; d. Oct. 15, 1812.
- iii. DEBORAH,⁵ b. 1753; m. 1776, Gov. John-Taylor Gilman, and was the mother of his five children; d. Feb. 20, 1791. Of these children, John-Taylor,⁶ b. 1779, Dart. Coll. 1796, d. in Charleston, S. C., Feb. 21, 1808, unmarried. Ann-Taylor,⁶ m. 1807, Hon. Nicholas Emery of Portland, Judge of the Supreme Court of Maine. Dorothy,⁶ m. Rev. Ichabod Nichols, D.D., one of the purest and noblest of men, and among the highest in his profession, whose two sons are George Henry (H. C. 1833, M.D. Penn. 1836), of Boston, and Rev. John T. Gilman, (H. C. 1836), of Saco, Me. Mary,⁶ m. Joseph-Green Cogswell, LL.D., who was associated with Hon. George Bancroft in the Round Hill School, Northampton, Ms., and was afterward Superintendent of the Astor Library. Elizabeth-Taylor,⁶ (b. Aug. 14, 1788, d. Apr. 3, 1860), m. June 1, 1815, Hon. Charles-S. Davis, an eminent lawyer of Portland, one of whose daughters is wife of Rev. David Greene-Haskins, of Cambridge.
- iv. JONATHAN,⁵ lost at sea.
- v. ANNA,⁵ b. 1762; m. Gen. Nathaniel Giddings, and had five children.
- vi. DOROTHY,⁵ m. Samuel Blodgett, and was mother of Mrs. West, of Baltimore.
- vii. RUTH-WEARE,⁵ b. May 30, 1780, whose home for many years was at Judge Emery's, where she died, May 21, 1851.

19. Col. SAMUEL⁴ FOLSOM (*Jonathan,³ John,² John¹*) m. (1) Anna Thing, (2) April 30, 1780, Elizabeth (b. Jan. 13, 1750, d. Sept. 1805),

our lives and fortunes with arms oppose the hostile proceedings of the British fleets and armies against the united American colonies,"—on Portsmouth list appear indeed *two* Nathaniel Folsoms. But undoubtedly they were the father Gen. Nathaniel, and his son Nathaniel. For Meshech Weare, Chairman of the Committee of Safety, a citizen of Hampton Falls, and Gen. Nathaniel Folsom, then also a member of the same Committee, who were often called to Portsmouth on the business of the Committee, *head the list*, and the names of these two are not on the Exeter and Hampton lists.

dau. of Noah Emery, Esq.; d. May 22. 1790. Col. Folsom was "Lieut. Col. of the Exeter corps of Independent Cadets, commanded by Col. John Phillips." When John Langdon of Portsmouth pledged his private property for the support of an expedition under Gen. Stark against Burgoyne, President Weare, chairman of the Committee of Safety, delegated Col. Folsom to visit Gen. Stark, to convey to him money for present expenses, to see what articles were immediately needed, and "advise with all persons in the service of the State of New-Hampshire on such things as he thought needful to forward the business they are engaged in."

"Two years afterwards Col. F. was selected by the General Court to present to Col. Joseph Cilley, in behalf of the State, a pair of pistols which had been the property of Col. Stephen Holland, the tory absentee."

"Col. Folsom kept a public house, as his widow continued to do many years after his death. And it was at his house that General Washington stopped and partook of a collation when he visited Exeter in his Eastern tour in the autumn of 1789." (For these particulars, see "Exeter in 1776," prepared by the Hon. Charles H. Bell for the Ladies' Centennial Levee held in Exeter, Feb. 22, 1876.) Children (all by second marriage):

- i. NANCY,^b m. Joseph Tilton, Esq., of Exeter; d. childless, March 10, 1837.
- ii. SAMUEL,^b b. June 7, 1783.
- iii. ELIZABETH,^b b. 1785; m. (1) Noah Emery, Esq., 1811 (d. 1812); m. (2) Rev. Isaac Hurd, D.D., of the 2d church of Exeter. He was a favorite with the students of the Academy, not simply because his sermons were invariably short, but because he was a most amiable, scholarly, accomplished man—short in stature, but the largest and finest in culture of any clergyman whom they knew. Dr. Hurd d. 1856; his wife, 187-. They left one child, *Francis P.* (H. C. 1839, M.D. Penn. 1845), of Reading, Mass.
- iv. JOANNA,^b b. 1787; m. 1810, Samuel-B. Stevens; lived in Exeter; had several children, of whom was *Elizabeth*, wife of William Augustus Norton, A.M., Prof. of Civil Engineering in Yale College; also *Samuel*, who left a family now residing in New-York City.

20. TRUEWORTHY⁴ FOLSOM (*Jonathan*,² *John*,² *John*¹), not so "well to do" in the world as his brothers, the Colonel and the General, but superior to them both in humor and wit; m. Mary West, of Boston, by whom he had:

- i. JOHN-WEST,^b who came to the place where his mother was found by his father, learned the printers' trade, and became established as printer and bookseller. One of his books is entitled "Aphorisms of Wisdom from the works of various writers upon Divine Subjects. Boston: Printed and Sold by John W. Folsom, No. 30 Union St. M.DCC.XCIV." 214 pp. 12mo. The Aphorisms are taken chiefly from Swedenborg, a list and description of whose writings are given in an Appendix. He also printed and published, in 1795, "Doctrines of the New Jerusalem Church, concerning the Sacred Scriptures"—together with numerous minor works. Mr. F. was master of the Columbian Lodge, 1799-1801; the first secretary of the Mass. Charitable Mechanic Association, continuing in office 5 years; member of the Board of Health for Boston, 1803; a Justice of the Peace, 1817-22; d. 1823, aged 66 or 8.
- ii. SAMUEL,^b
- iii. MARY,^b m. to Benjamin Silsbee, 1786.
- iv. ANN,^b m. to Dudley Kimball, 1789.
- v. ELIZABETH,^b m. to Thomas Swazey, 1787.

21. JOSIAH⁴ FOLSOM (*Jonathan*,² *John*,² *John*¹) succeeded no better than his brother Trueworthy in getting worldly gear. His home in Dover, on the rising-ground southwardly from the village, had a fine outward look

over fields and village, and toward river and sky and distant hills, but it was very humble, one-storied, unpainted, and the income of its owner from making wigs and perukes, in which he was really an artist, quite meagre. He had indeed rich stores of anecdote and of results of observation obtained in his yearly trips into the Canadas, making him one of the most entertaining men of his day; but this did not bring worldly comforts into his household, nor procure advantages for his children. And so his boys, knowing well that for any good start in business, or position in society, they must depend solely on their personal efforts, and desiring, each of them, to build for himself as good a household as he could, early left the cabin-home, one by one, and went forth into the great world. "And God was with the lads." There were four of them, and three sisters.

- i. **JOSIAH-GILMAN**,^s b. 1763; lived, and, Dec. 31, 1837, d. in Portsmouth. He was a nail-cutter, chair-maker, and at the same time carried on a retail trade in West India goods. By a first marriage he had one son, *Josiah*, who went to Pittsburg, Pa., and two daughters, *Mary* and *Eliza*. He married (2) Sarah Hull, of Durham (b. Feb. 6, 1775, d. Sept. 1829, in whom the best qualities of womanhood were contained in a noble form), by whom he had (1) *Sarah*, m. Jan. 1, 1828, to her cousin J.-Gilman Folsom, a promising young merchant of Portsmouth, in partnership with his uncle Nathaniel, taken away by fever on return from a business trip to the West, 1835, leaving two children—a dau. m. to Ferdinand Bosher, of Manchester, and Gilman, of Worcester; (2) *Lydia*, m. to John Oxford, of Portsmouth, and having two children; (3) *William-Cutter*, house-builder, m. in Maryland; d. in Vicksburg, Miss., leaving two active sons, one now of Manchester, N. H., the other of Worcester, Mass.
- ii. **ELIZABETH**,^s b. 1765; d. 183-.
- iii. **NANCY**,^s b. 1767; d. 1791.
- iv. **SAMUEL**,^s b. Jan. 30, 1770; went to Marietta, O., 1789, where he met his kinsman, not quite four years his senior, Benjamin Ives Gilman, whom he had known in Exeter and by whom he was perhaps led to go West; engaged with him in the purchase of peltry and furs; m. in Gallia co., 1802, Catherine Smith, formerly of Londonderry, N. H.; bought and settled on a farm of 217 acres in the French Grant, Scioto co., 1805; built vessels and sent them down the Ohio river; d. 1813, leaving four children: *James-Smith*, merch. (who owns and lives on the homestead), *Samuel*, *Melissa*, *Mary* (now widow of a minister who d. 1865). All were married, and their descendants, numbering 26, are engaged in the industries of life, are miners, millers, merchants, farmers, iron-founders and agents. Two of the sons of Mary, Charles-W. and James-H., living, with their mother, in Prairie City, Ill., edit and manage the "Prairie City Herald."
- v. **ABIGAIL**,^s b. April 13, 1772, made her home with her youngest brother until she married (1816 or '17), Dea. Skates, of Milton, where she died. She was as dear an aunt as ever blessed human household. It was fascinating to see her measure the hands of young misses for nice deer-skin gloves, never failing to fit them; and she knew how to fit the circumstances of life to young souls. She was a prominent member of the Rev. Dr. Buckminster's church.
- vi. **JONATHAN**,^s b. June 12, 1779; m. Oct. 20, 1802, in Gifford (where he at first lived), Sarah Rowe (b. May 27, 1778, d. May 9, 1846); moved across the Bridge and settled on a large farm (now in Laconia) running down to the Bay, carrying on also his trade as house-carpenter; d. June 22, 1872, aged 93—a man very tall and large; thoughtful, intelligent, righteous and good, beloved not less by his nephews and nieces than by his own family. Of his children, *Jeremiah*, b. May 8, 1803, m. twice and had three children; *Sarah-H.*, b. Jan. 20, 1805, m. Edmund Davis, Nov. 5, 1826, well known with his sons for their iron castings in Dover and Portsmouth, N. H., North Andover and Lawrence, Mass., two of them and a daughter being married and having children (one

in Lawrence and the other in Saginore, Michigan); *Josiah-Gilman*, b. Nov. 29, 1806 (see under *JOSIAH*); *Mary*, m. L. B. Smith, of Exeter, and has three children; *Ehza*, m. Geo. W. Evans, but has no children; *Adeline*, m. Judge Jonathan Chase, of Conway, both of whom are dead, and left a son, now member of Dart. Coll.; *Albert-Gallatin*, b. Oct. 12, 1816, one of the influential citizens of Laconia, m. to Olive B. Robinson, Jun. 5, 1843, and has two living and married daughters.

- vii. **NATHANIEL**,^a Jr., b. in Dover, Feb. 13, 1782; d. March 12, 1866; m. April 15, 1805, his second cousin Mary (b. Dec. 24, 1786, d. Oct. 3, 1853), second dau. of Theophilus Smith, farmer, of Stratham (d. 1824), the oldest son of Theophilus Smith, of Exeter (H. C. 1761, m. Sarah, third dau. of Dr. Josiah Gilman and sister of the mother of Nathaniel, Jr.; was father of a large family, the most of whom were married, had families, and lived and died in Exeter—the mother of Mr. Nathaniel Shute of Exeter being one of his daughters; was teacher, one of the proprietors of Gilmanton, their clerk one year, their moderator and treasurer seven years, their selectman ten years; was the *fifth* Theophilus Smith and oldest son in uninterrupted descent from the first that settled in Winnicomet, a part of Stratham, 1630,—that same uninterrupted descent now embracing the *ninth* Theophilus Smith and oldest or only son, Theophilus Gilman Smith, Esq., of Boston, who grad. at H. C. 1871, just 110 years after the fifth*). The lad Nathaniel, youngest child of his parents, began to earn money at eleven years of age, giving it all to his parents for their support; went to Portsmouth at 12 or 13, to learn the baking-business with Col. Woodward (a man of high consideration and ample means, the father of Mrs. John Haven); walked home weekly on Saturday, often bare-footed, carrying his small pecuniary stipend to his parents; set up in business at the age of nineteen, and engaged a popular colored man, *Pomp Spring*, to carry bread around and sell at a public stand, giving him one-half the net-proceeds; bought, before he was 21, the house and lot in the rear of the Old North Church, for which he paid Col. Jonathan Warner in silver all but one hundred dollars, and received his deed, the Colonel declining to take a note for the remainder, and saying that he would trust him; took his father and mother and sister Abigail very soon to live with him, the old folks now made comfortable and happy as they had not been for years, until they died, the mother Aug. 3, 1812, aged 72, blessing God, to her latest breath, for her youngest-born; the father, Feb. 4, 1816, aged 81. When the latter was past the meridian of life, stout in person, broad-chested, muscular, his sky became

* The following anecdote was told the writer some time since 1862, by Mrs. Odiorne, sister of Mr. William Charles Gilman, and living at that time in a house built on the old foundations of the one formerly occupied by Dr. Josiah Gilman, just east of Dr. Gorham's. Before William Charles entered the Academy at Exeter, he was a pupil of Mr. Theophilus Smith, at that time teacher of a large private school. One of the exercises, occasionally, was a spelling-match, in which two leaders "chose sides," and the whole school, being evenly divided, stood arrayed one side against the other. Every one who missed a word was obliged to sit down; and thus the battle went on until, on one of these occasions, only William Charles, the youngest and littlest boy in the school, was left standing. His teacher, placing him upon the table, then required the whole school, one by one, to go and bow down to him. The father was justly displeased on being informed of it, and feared that Mr. Smith would spoil the boy. But that young lad, who was also the cousin and early companion of Charles Folsom, maintained in subsequent life, both as a business man and a Christian, the same preëminence among his fellows, and was as unassuming as he was preëminent.

Theophilus, son of the teacher, did not do much of the work of farming personally, except in planting and in haying time. He used to visit Portsmouth almost every Saturday, carrying his butter and cheese and lamb, in his wagon or sleigh, to market, and take up his oldest grandson with him about once a month. He loved to roam the woods in pursuit of game, and by the banks of the stream running into the Winnicomet for trout and perch, taking his grandson along with him. He was a reading man, familiar with such works as Plutarch's Lives, Josephus, and Rollin's Ancient History. The works of Chillingworth, Reeve's Apologies of Justin Martyr, Tertullian, and Minutius Felix, once his, have been since his death in the possession of the writer. He used to tell me, that in a fit of anger at being severely punished by his father for what was but an accident, but caused serious injury to his next older brother, he abandoned his preparation for entering Harvard. He never repented of it but once, and that was for the whole of his after life.

darkened by mental alienation. The attacks were temporary, and the son had always the most perfect control of him. They became less and less frequent, with longer intervals of sanity, in which he was a great factor in a merry household. The last few years of his life were serene and lovely, with not a solitary flash bursting as from clouds in distant horizon. His sleeping-chamber in the new house built by his son, was that of his grandson also, and had an outlook from its windows upon the not far distant ocean open between two head-lands, where, though with dim eyes, he could see, or think he saw, the vessels appearing and disappearing from behind them. Meantime and afterward, his youngest-born, Nathaniel, went on prospering, left his trade, became merchant, ship-owner in 1816, and real-estate holder (not always nor all to his advantage), retired from business on a small income about 1836; lived a life calm and happy, principally with his youngest daughter and her family, with several other married children around him, until in his eighty-fifth year he died. In early manhood he was a member of the Royal Arch Chapter of Masons; member of the Mechanics Charitable Association, and Mechanic Fire Society. The red buckets of the latter hung in his entry. In the terrible night of the fire of Dec. 22, 1813, followed by another fire on the 12th of January, 1814, he came home once; girt about with his blanket, all begrimed with smoke, wet through and through with the water, and from the next day after the last fire, suffered a long and most painful confinement to his chamber—the first and only sickness he ever had until his death. He was the most even-tempered and the best man the writer has ever known. She who was his only wife was also his true helpmeet, “rising while it was yet night to give meat to her household,” “stretching out her hands to the poor,” “showing hospitality,” eminently religious, a great reader and thinker as her father and mother were before her, seeking to stimulate her children to honorable endeavors in life. They had eight children: (1) *Nathaniel-Smith*,* b. March 12, 1806; b. p. the 27th of the next April, by Dr. Buckminster; m. Oct. 30, 1832, Ann Wendell, dau. of Hon. Hunking Penhallow, of Portsmouth, and Mrs. Harriet Scott, daughter of Capt. David Pearce, of Gloucester (children: Justin-Nathaniel, b. Aug. 8, 1833, d. April 20, 1851; Edward-Penhallow, b. June 28, 1835, fell in the first battle at Yucca, Miss., in the late war; Sarah-Brainerd, b. Aug. 21, 1836, d. June 1, 1839; Paris-Hill, b. Jan. 12, 1840, of Washington, D. C., who is married and has two sons and one daughter; Charles-Follen, b. April 3, 1842, H. C. 1862, M. D. 1870, of Boston, Secretary of the State Board of Health; Harriet-Elizabeth, Anna-Smith, Ellen-Minot, the last three all teachers—the youngest being one of the teachers in the Boston Girls' High School); (2) *Mary-Gilman*, b. Sept. 2, 1811, d. Feb. 12, 1819; (3) *Ann-Elizabeth*, b. Aug. 15, 1814, m. in 1833, Jeremiah Mathes, merchant of Portsmouth, d. March 16, 1862, leaving four sons (two of whom, Edwin N. of D. C. 1854, and Capt. George, are dead) and two daughters (the father also d. March, 1866); (4) *Sarah-Jane*, b. Sept. 28, 1817, d. March 10, 1836; (5) *Samuel-Gilman*, merchant, b. Dec. 6, 1820, m. Mary Ann Seavy, by whom he has one son, Eugene of San Francisco, and one daughter; (6)

* Nathaniel-Smith, grad. Phillips Exeter Academy, 1824; Dart. College, 1828; Andover Theological Seminary, 1831; was ordained an evangelist, with six classmates, by the Presbytery of Newburyport, at Bradford, Sept. 26, 1831; missionary at the South and West, 1831-33; Prof. in the Lit. Department of Lane Seminary, 1833-4; Prof. of Biblical Literature (with his classmates Clement Long, Prof. of Intellectual and Moral Philosophy, and Jarvis Gregg, Prof. of Sacred Rhetoric) in the Western Reserve Coll., Hudson, Ohio, 1834-36; pastor of the Congregational Church in Franconstown, N. H., 1836-38; of the High Street Church, Providence, R. I., 1838-43; and of the Church of the First Parish, Haverhill, Mass., 1849-47; minister-at-large in Charlestown, in connection with Dr. G. E. Ellis's society, and also editor of the *Christian Register*, 1847-49; Prof. of Biblical Literature in the Meadville Theological School, 1849-51; since then a private teacher. He is the author of a “Commentary on Daniel, 1842,” 12 mo. pp. 231; of the “Four Gospels, translated from the Greek text of Tischendorf, with various readings, and with Critical and Expository Notes, Boston, A. Williams & Co., 1869,” 12 mo. pp. 483; also of articles in various religious periodicals.

John-Henry, house-builder, b. Aug. 18, 1622, m. Lucy Jane Trundy, by whom he has had two sons and one daughter (d. young); (7) *James-Wilham*, accountant, b. July 15, 1824, m. and has a son; (8) *Mary-Frances*, twin sister of the latter, m. Nathan F. Mathes, merchant, of Portsmouth, and has two daughters, Frances-Abby, teacher in the Bradford Female Academy; and Ella, m. C. Morris Tredick, of Portsmouth, who has one daughter, Helen.

22. JAMES⁴ FOLSOM (*Peter*,³ *Peter*,² *John*¹) m. June 18, 1735, Elizabeth Thing, dau. of Capt. Jonathan Thing. They had one child:

JAMES,⁵ b. June 27, 1737, who m. Elizabeth, dau. of Thomas Webster, Dec. 1763. Of their seven children was

- i. JAMES,⁶ b. 1765; m. to Sarah (b. 1766, d. 1805), dau. of Capt. Josiah Gilman, and grand-dau. of Rev. Nicholas, the brother of Dr. Josiah. The children of James⁶ by Sarah were: *Sophia*, b. 1787, wife of Daniel Rundlett; *Joseph-G.*, b. 1788; *Sarah-G.*, b. 1790, wife of Silas Gould; *Henry*, b. 1792; *Charles*, b. 1794, d. 1872; *Anna-G.*, b. 1797, wife of J. C. Gerrish; *Mary-G.*, b. 1799; *George-W.*, b. 1803; also, by a second wife, *Harriet*, *Stephen* and *James*. Out of these eleven children,

CHARLES⁷ attained special distinction. Having graduated at Harvard, 1813, he began in the autumn of 1814 to study divinity, but was obliged to relinquish it from ill health, and in the spring of 1816 he accepted the offer to go out in the 74 gun-ship "Washington" as chaplain and as the midshipmen's teacher in mathematics. In 1817, he was appointed *Chargé d'Affaires* at Tunis, where he continued until 1819. One of these young men obtained permission to accompany him and continue his studies under him. Almost half a century passed, and there visited Boston a naval officer of renown, whose first visit, after the public honors of reception, was to Mr. Folsom in Cambridge. It was Vice-Admiral Farragut, now a veteran of national fame, who wanted to see his old teacher. On leaving New-England, the Admiral sent him a magnificent vase, with beautiful engravings from sketches drawn by his own hand, as an acknowledgment of indebtedness to "the young Yankee pastor" for good influences, helping him to do whatever he had done for his country and the world. Returning from the Mediterranean, Mr. Folsom became Tutor in Harvard, 1821-23; Librarian of the Coll., 1823-26; Librarian of the Boston Athenæum, 1845-56. He performed many important literary labors; sent forth an excellent school edition of Cicero's Orations; and it is especially to his praise that authors like Quincy and Norton and Sparks and Palfrey and Prescott and Parsons—both Dr. Parsons and Dr. Palfrey contributing beautiful memorial sketches of him—put their manuscripts or proofs into his hands, and cordially acknowledged their great indebtedness to his valuable services. The most fragrant of the memories still blooming from his dust, is that "his kindness was warm, constant and unselfish. No one ever knew him refuse a favor which it was in his power to grant, or think first of himself, when the question was whether he should benefit himself or another."

On the 19th of October, 1824, he m. Susanna Sarah, daughter of Rev. Joseph McKean, Prof. of Rhetoric and Oratory in Harvard. His wife, three sons (Col. Charles-W., H. C. 1845, Civil Engineer; Norton, M.D., Harv., Surgeon 45th colored troops, Resident Physician Mass. Gen. Hospital; Rev. George-McKean, H. C. 1857, Supervisor of Public Schools), and one daughter, survive him. Two of the sons are married.

- ii. THOMAS,⁶ b. May 11, 1769; m. Ednah Ela; resided in Kennebunk and Portland; had children: Louisa, Charles, Clarissa, also

GEORGE,⁷ of Harvard College 1822, LL.D. of Vermont University 1860, an eminent author of several annalistic, antiquarian and historic papers and works, member of the N. Y. Senate 1844-47, U. S. minister to Holland 1850-53. He was born in Kennebunk, May 23, 1802; m. Margaret Cornelia, dau. of Benjamin Winthrop, 1839; d. at Rome, Italy, 1870, leaving one son George-W. of New-York, who m. Miss

Fuller, and two daughters *Margaret* and *Helen-Stuyvesant*—the latter a member of the sisterhood at Cluer, Eng., who in a brief sketch has wrought a beautiful tribute to her father's domestic virtues, his love of literary men and pursuits, his abundant and elegant hospitality, genial temper, courtesy and kindness to high and low, exhibiting in particular that trait which obtained for him when a lad the name of "Gentle Georgie," but which was not less conspicuous in the man than in the child.

- iii. NATHANIEL,⁶ b. April 2, 1771; m. Mary Bond; d. in Hallowell, Me., whose children were: *Thomas-Oliver*, M.D., Harv. 1825; d. 1827; *Mary*, *Elizabeth*, and *Clarissa*.
- iv. PETER,⁶ b. Feb. 22, 1775, Kennebunk; m. Susan Jenkins; d. June, 1817.
- v. MARY,⁶ b. July 12, 1776, wife of Nathaniel Jeffers, Kennebunk.
- vi. JOHN,⁶ b. Nov. 5, 1777; m. Hannah Swasey, of whom was born *John-Fulford*,⁷ bookbinder, of Boston. The latter's wife, Caroline, was dau. of Mary Rogers (b. Jan. 10, 1780, dau. of Capt. Benjamin Rogers of Newburyport) and John Shaw, son of Rev. Jeremiah Shaw, of Moultonborough, N. H. (H. C. 1767; first supplied as missionary at the Isles of Shoals, 1773-75, when most of the people became dispersed through fear of being captured by the British; was ordained, Nov. 17, 1779, pastor of the Congregational church in Moultonborough then quite on the frontier, where he continued until 1816, when he resigned, but supplied the pulpit six years longer. He d. 1834, in the 88th year of his age, "a man of a quiet turn of mind and of good judgment," drawing to public worship people who used to walk, or ride on horseback, 10 miles each way—one old man of Centre Harbor saying that he could not recollect of more than one or two instances in which the weather or bad travelling kept him away; and an intelligent farmer of Tamworth being accustomed to say, in the hearing of his son, Rev. Mr. Chapman, who told the present writer, "When I want a fervent prayer, I like to hear Parson Hidden; when I want a sermon, I like to hear Parson Shaw"). From this parentage sprung:

ALBERT-ALONZO,⁸ whose name and fame are inseparable from the Boston and Providence Rail-Road, of which he has been several years Superintendent, having developed naturally from quite early life into pre-eminent fitness for the duties of his office. He has named some of his iron steeds after characters which are an embodiment of the most genial thoughts of one of the greatest of the writers of fiction in modern times. We cannot help thinking that with Mr. F. this intercourse with works of the imagination is no unusual mode of relaxation, and that like many other efficient men he owes to it much of the ease and heartiness and success with which he wields his large responsibilities, and not simply to his industry and fidelity and ability.

Mr. F. is Senior Warden of the Columbian Lodge. He married, April 11, 1861, Julia Elizabeth, dau. of Francis B. Winter, of Boston. Their children are: *Frank-B.-W.*, b. Feb. 6, 1862; *Chandler-R.*, b. Dec. 1, 1865; *Mary-Winter*, b. Sept. 30, 1867.

23. PETER⁴ FOLSOM (*Peter*,³ *Peter*,² *John*¹) m. Mary, b. 1722, d. Oct. 1791, dau. of Jonathan³ Folsom (*John*,² *John*¹). This is the first intermarriage between the lines of Dea. John and Lieut. Peter—the great-grandson of the first John in the line of the latter marrying the great-granddau. in the line of the former. They had ten children:

- i. MARY,⁵ b. Aug. 31, 1744; m. Samuel Clark, of Gilmanton, July 4, 1762, and was mother of *Elder Peter Clark*.
- ii. CATHERINE,⁵ m. ——— Wadleigh.
- iii. ANNA (or Nancy), b. Jan. 1749; m. Feb. 1771, Joseph Young, Esq., of Gilmanton, whose dau. MARY was mother of Hon. W. H. Y. Hackett, of Portsmouth.
- iv. PETER,⁵ b. June 24, 1750; m. Jemima, b. March 7, 1755, dau. of Josiah Folsom (grandson of Dea. John). They lived in Gilmanton, and both died in 1832; had JEMIMA, LYDIA, PETER, JOSIAH, NATHANIEL, POLLY, SAMUEL and MARTHA.

- v. ELIZABETH,⁵ m. Lieut. Jonathan Perkins of Gilmanton, officer in the Revolutionary army.
- vi. NICHOLAS,⁵ b. at Exeter, April 29, 1752; m. Dorothy, dau. of Joseph Leavitt, of Exeter; moved to Gilmanton, about 1787; d. June 20, 1847. They had Capt. *Nicholas*, b. Aug. 9, 1785, father of *Nicholas-Leavitt Folsom*, M.D., b. Dec. 20, 1815, of Portsmouth, also of *Peter*, *Joseph*, *Dudley*, *Jonathan*, *Thomas*, *Polly*, *Dolly*, *Love-Leavitt*, *James* and *Lydia*.
- vii. JONATHAN,⁵ of Gilford, b. at Exeter, 1753; m. (1) Lydia, dau. of Josiah, grandson of Dea. John; m. (2) Sarah Green of Stratham, who was his administratrix 1814. He had four sons: *Jonathan*,⁶ *Peter*,⁶ *Samuel*,⁶ *Benjamin*,⁶ and a dau. *Sarah*.⁶ The first of these, Jonathan,⁶ b. 1785, m. Lydia (see under Benj.³), d. 1825. He was an eminent contractor and builder; built the sea-wall at the Isles of Shoals, to form a haven for imperilled vessels, and only proved the futility of saying to the furious sea just there, Hitherto shalt thou come and no further! He built the enduring works of the large stone wharf on the western side of the Portsmouth Navy-Yard, the first Seventy-Four-House, vast and nobly-proportioned, and timber-houses. The Stone Church in Portsmouth, which for use as a house of worship and kindred religious exercises, for simple beauty and quiet grandeur, has not been surpassed, nor is likely to be, he began to build, saw its walls rise with exultation, but died of exposure and overwork a year before its completion. He left four children: *Dea. Thomas*, of Exeter, b. 1810; *Mary-Elizabeth*, b. 1812; *Hiram*, b. 1814; *Charles*, b. 1816.
- PETER,⁶ brother of Jonathan,⁶ m. Hannah Hook, and had eight children, among whom is *Peter-William*, b. 1813, of Boston (Roxbury District), married, and having a son and daughter.
- viii. JAMES,⁵ b. July 22, 1756; m. Dec. 2, 1784, Mary, dau. of Josiah Folsom (grandson of Dea. John); had eleven children, of whom *Lydia*, m. Nathaniel Nelson, of Gilmanton; *Martha*, m. Dudley Nelson, of Gilmanton; *Lavinia*, m. Samuel Nelson, of Salem, Mass.; *Sarah-R.*, m. Joseph Safford, of Danvers, Mass.; *Frances*, m. Benjamin Gordon; *Nancy-Y.*, m. Daniel Melcher; *Mary*, was unm. The sons were *James*, *Josiah*, *Peter-G.* of Danvers, *Nicholas D.*
- ix. SAMUEL,⁵ b. Nov. 3, 1761; went to Deerfield, 1792; m. (1) Anna Shepherd of Deerfield, (?) by whom he had, with three other children, *Peter*, b. Oct. 31, 1789, who m. (1) Nancy Smith, and is father of *Peter*, b. Aug. 16, 1817, now of Bloomington, Ill., m. to Cordelia Soule, and the father of five children. By a second wife, Nancy Smith, Samuel had two more children; then is said to have moved to Cornville, Me., where several of his children also live.
- NATHANIEL,⁵ m. — James, lived in Gilmanton.

24. JOSHUA⁴ FOLSOM (*John*,³ Lieut. *Peter*,³ *John*¹), b. 1711(?), was a Quaker or Friend, of Epping, a public speaker in the Society of Friends, who died 1793 or '4. His children were: 1. *Thomas*, b. 1746, and d. without children. 2. *John*, b. 1755, m. Mary Fowler, lived and died in Sandwich. 3. *Joshua*. 4. *Mary*, wife of — Fry. 5. *Abigail*. 6. *Benjamin*, who had Mead, Thomas and John. 7. *Samuel*, who died soon after his father, leaving children, Joshua, Mary, Huldah and Betty. 8. *Betty*, who died before her father. He has a very large number of descendants. In correspondence with *Henry-Page Folsom*, Esq., of Circleville, O. (who, besides the particulars of his own genealogy, gave information concerning the descendants of Samuel Folsom, son of Josiah (Jonathan³ &c.), when the senior writer had been long and utterly baffled in trying to find their whereabouts), Mr. Chapman learned that a branch of Joshua has flourished there for a long time. II. P. F., b. 1854, is son of Charles and nephew of Henry Folsom⁷ (now Henry Page, a lawyer, b. Circleville, O., 1821), son of Joshua,⁶ Joshua,⁵ Joshua⁴ (the Quaker). His mother's family lived in Philadelphia, and belonged to the Society of Friends.

Some years ago, a farmer of Wayland, Mass., bearing the name of "Folsom," a lineal descendant of the Quaker, and, in common with his whole family, cherishing a remarkable veneration for him, but at that time unable to trace his pedigree further back, related to the writer in substance the following story, which was put on record without delay and is now simply transcribed.

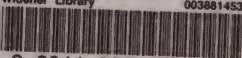
Joshua was the proprietor of 2,000 acres of land, still in the possession of his descendants. He was a miller. The people of the town, in those Revolutionary times, called him *a Tory*, because being a Friend he could not go with them in their war measures; and they combined to spill all his grain into the water. Mr. Cilley, of Nottingham or Deerfield, hearing of this, and being an executor of an estate which the miller owed for rye, immediately proceeded to secure, if possible, the payment before the catastrophe. "In which will you take your pay," said the miller, "in silver or in rye?" "In rye, if agreeable, because it is every day rising." The miller measured out the same number of bushels that he received. "Why, Sir," exclaimed the amazed executor, "rye is worth twice as much as when you bought, and you ought to give me only one-half the amount." "No matter, I choose to return what I received." "Is that your principle?" responded Mr. C., "why they call you a Tory, and say you are opposed to independence." "No, I am not! I want the country to be free, but I don't want to go to war about it." Mr. C. then added, "they are going to throw all your grain into the water to-night. But they shall pass over my dead body first"! And off he rode, got the people together and told them the story. The plot was abandoned. The Quaker Joshua became the most famed hero in the region for his kindness to the widow and fatherless. We may still see those pitiful, determined eyes, through the dust of the mill, and hear that calm Christian voice amid the clatter uttering its "Yea" and "Nay," avoiding in reply "whatsoever is more than these," because it "cometh of evil," and feel that he did what was wisest and best.

THE BORROWER WILL BE CHARGED
AN OVERDUE FEE IF THIS BOOK IS NOT
RETURNED TO THE LIBRARY ON OR
BEFORE THE LAST DATE STAMPED
BELOW. NON-RECEIPT OF OVERDUE
NOTICES DOES NOT EXEMPT THE
BORROWER FROM OVERDUE FEES.

WIDENER
BOOK DU
DEC 22 1983

1028916

PS 42101.1
Descendants of the first John Folso
Widener Library 003861453



3 2044 086 450 244